

ARAB TIMES



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THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 3-4, 1988

RAJAB 15-16, 1408 AH



Royal clemency

RABAT, (Reuter): King Hassan has pardoned 995 prisoners in a measure of royal clemency marking the 27th anniversary of his accession to the throne, the Justice Ministry said. The ministry did not identify the beneficiaries.

Ben Ali in Algiers

ALGIERS, (Reuter): Tunisian President Zine Al Abidine Ben Ali arrived in Algiers yesterday on his first foreign visit since taking power from President Habib Bourguiba nearly four months ago.

Confident

NICOSIA, (Reuter): Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash said yesterday he was confident a meeting could be arranged with new Cypriot President George Vassiliou on the 14-year-old division of the island.

Naval exercises

ANKARA, (Reuter): Egypt and Turkey will hold joint naval exercises in international waters of the eastern Mediterranean later this year, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said.

ON VOTE

UNITED NATIONS, (UPI): The UN General Assembly voted overwhelmingly yesterday to take the United States before the World Court in order to stop it from closing down the PLO mission in New York.

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انسانیت
ایران
ایران عراق کے دریان
جگ پاری
شکر کو شرق و سطی و میں
جنگ پریا
بیانات کی افغانستان میں
دیگر کیان ۱۰۰۰ شرف شاد کا تحریر
بیانات
تیریات
بلیک کسٹ

WEATHER

PARTLY cloudy weather with moderate southeasterly wind may freshen at times and a chance for rain later in the day.
State of sea: moderate to rough
High water: 6.00 am, 12.00 pm
Low water: 6.00 am, 12.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.12 am
Sunset: 4.49 pm
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 24°C 75°F
Ahmadi: 24°C 75°F
Fallata: 22°C 72°F
Maximum temperature expected: Kuwait: 26°C 79°F
Ahmadi: 24°C 75°F
Fallata: 24°C 75°F
Maximum temperature recorded: Kuwait: 12°C 54°F
Ahmadi: 13°C 57°F
Fallata: 14°C 57°F
Maximum humidity recorded: Kuwait: 76 per cent
Ahmadi: 80 per cent
Fallata: 70 per cent
Maximum humidity expected: Kuwait: 85 per cent
Ahmadi: 89 per cent
Fallata: 80 per cent

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Baghdad, Tehran and Qom hit Tit-for-tat missile attacks continue

NICOSIA, March 2, (Reuter): Iraq raised the stakes in the Gulf war today, sending missiles smashing into the Iranian holy city of Qom, while Iran retaliated with rocket strikes on Baghdad.

An Iraqi military spokesman said two rockets hit Qom at around midday, prayer time of a major Shi'ite Muslim religious festival when many pious Iranians normally flock to the city.

Iraq also fired two missiles into Tehran, raising the number it has launched at the Iranian capital in three days to 21.

Iraq says Iraqi air and rocket attacks which started last Saturday with an air raid on Tehran have killed at least 60 people and injured over 100. But it said there were no casualties in the attack on Qom.

Precise

Iraq has reported several people killed or wounded in its eight Iranian missile strikes on Baghdad. Military spokesman have given no precise figures.

Iraq says Iran's leaders can end the carnage by accepting a UN-ordered ceasefire but it vowed if necessary to raze Tehran. "We will continue to pound their nests and punish them," a spokesman said.

Iraq says Iran must first be labelled the aggressor in the 7-1/2-year-old war before it will accept peace.

Iran's spiritual leader, Ayatollah Khomeini, told a Tehran meeting with relatives of war victims that the Iraqi missile attacks only strengthened the will of Iranians.

"A mistake the Westerners

and our opponents make is that they think that Iranians are frightened by missiles. But they fired their missiles, killed people ... yet the Iranian people are sitting tight and laughing at them," he said.

Warned

Iranian Prime Minister Mir-Hossein Mousavi warned: "Iraq will get tooth-smashing replies."

A foreign resident in Tehran, contacted by telephone, said many Iranians and foreigners had left the capital for nearby resorts. He said the Japanese Embassy was recommending the evacuation of Japanese women and children.

He also said foreign airlines had stopped flying to Tehran and tickets on Iran Air were almost impossible to get.

Spain warned its nationals yesterday against travelling to Iraq and Iran following the resumption of the "war of the cities."

The missile attacks on Qom, 150 km (90 miles) southwest of Tehran, were the first against the city, sometimes called the cradle of Iran's Islamic revolution.

Experts

Iran has accused the United States of instigating the Iraqi attacks and the Soviet Union of supplying the missiles.

Western diplomats and military experts said Iraq appeared to have modified Soviet Scud-B missiles, probably developing booster rockets to bring Tehran within range.

Iraq says it has produced its own missiles with a 650 km (400 mile) range.

UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar appealed for an end to the war of the cities.

Freed UN men leave Beirut

BEIRUT, March 2, (Reuter): Two Scandinavian UN aid workers, freed by their kidnappers after 26 days in captivity, left for home today saying they had been treated well.

Swede Jan Stening, 44, and Norwegian William Jorgensen, 57, flew to Cyprus where they picked up a Swissair flight for Zurich.

Before leaving, they told a news conference in East Beirut their kidnappers had moved them eight times, usually at night and in a car boot.

The two, who worked for the UN Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa), were seized near the southern port of Sidon on Feb 5 and released in West Beirut last night, near the Summerland Hotel.

Stening said they were driven to Beirut by the kidnappers.

"We were interrogated in a polite manner. They asked us where we had served, in which country and what kind of job we had."

"We were blindfolded only in

the beginning and were interrogated for just a couple of hours during one of the last days," he said.

"We were moved approximately eight times. Normally we were moved in the trunk of a car. I cannot say if it was the same car. Normally we were moved at night," he added.

Stening and Joergensen, who appeared in good health, said they did not know the identity of their kidnappers or why they were seized.

Unrua had said the two were kidnapped by individuals loyal to the Al Fatah group of Yasser Arafat, chairman of the PLO.

Palestinian officials have repeatedly denied any such link.

Political sources in Sidon said the two were first seized by Palestinians with connections to both Al Fatah and the Fatah Revolutionary Council of Abu Nidal.

"Some of the Fatah kidnappers were Unrua employees who had some problems with the

(Continued on Page 2)

18,262

accidents last year

ACCORDING to statistics compiled for 1987, a total of 564,410 cars are driven in Kuwait by 672,235 drivers.

There was one road accident for every 31 vehicles and 15 deaths per 100,000 persons last year.

A total of 18,262 road accidents were reported in Kuwait last year, with damage totalling KD100 million.

The Director of Planning at the General Traffic Department, Lt Col Nabil Shuhaimer, said that the number of deaths caused by road accidents increased in 1987 compared to 1986 because of the number of pedestrian accidents.

He said that 6.3 per cent of the total number of accidents involved pedestrians.

Resulting

Shuhaimer said that 4,812 accidents were reported in the Capital Governorate in 1987, resulting in 40 deaths. In the Hawalli Governorate 8,426 accidents were reported with 107 deaths; 1,932 in the Jahra Governorate with 64 deaths and 3,092 accidents in the Ahmadi Governorate.

The General Traffic Department collected KD4,395,662 in fines, fees for licences and licence plates last year and KDI,713,995 for 92,836 traffic violations that were not referred to traffic courts.

He said that traffic accidents involving collisions between vehicles, bad decreased from previous years, which he attributed to better traffic control and increased traffic safety awareness.

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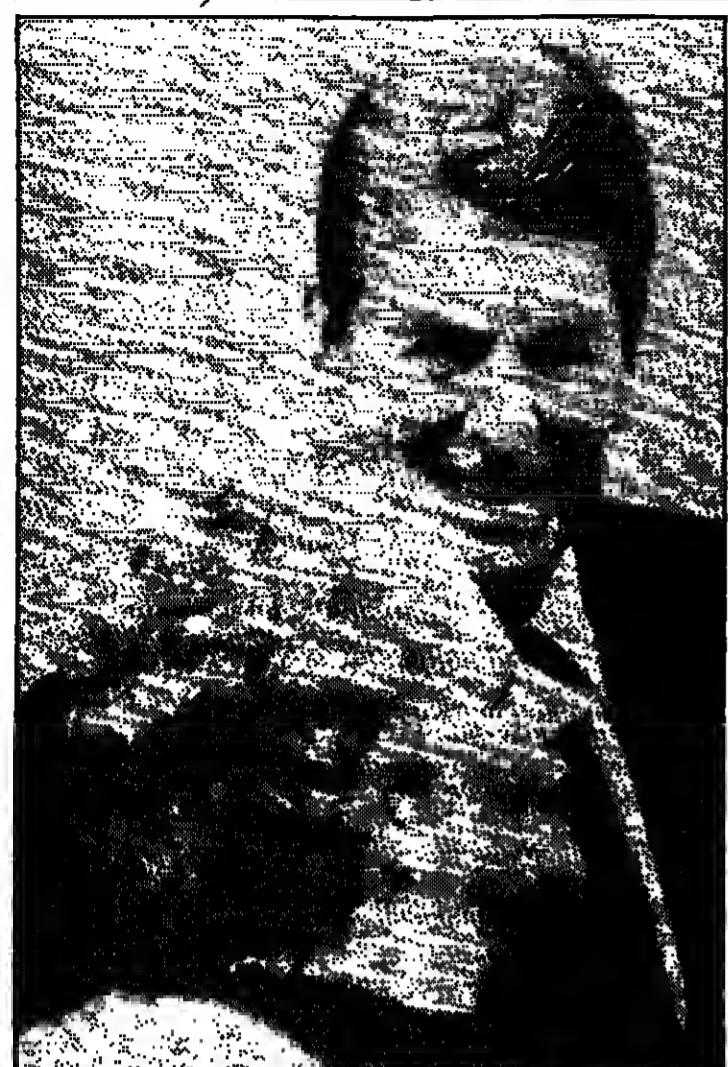
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INTERNATIONAL

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 3-4, 1988



British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and President Reagan at the start of the NATO summit in Brussels. (Reuter wirephoto)

Rajiv orders probe into Zail Singh's charge

NEW DELHI, March 2, (Reuter): Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi ordered an inquiry today into a charge that opponents offered millions of dollars to former President Zail Singh to seek a second term.

Singh, who clashed with Rajiv over his constitutional powers before stepping down last July, said in a magazine interview dissidents in Rajiv's Congress (I) Party and opposition supporters offered him up to \$30 million to seek re-election.

Corruption

Rajiv told Parliament that he had ordered the Home Ministry "to find out how that money was to be used because there is no campaign in the presidential election as such."

The President, who occupies a largely ceremonial post, is elec-

ted for five years by a college of state assembly and national parliament members.

Singh told Sunday magazine he was seriously considering dismissing Rajiv last year when the government was shaken by allegations of corruption in two arms deals.

Rajiv's popularity plunged and the Congress Party was split by dissidents who have since been expelled. Singh did not name the dissidents.

His allegation has re-opened the debate about presidential powers and the arms deal scandals.

Intervening during Rajiv's statement, Lower House Speaker Balram Jakhar said:

"This is a serious matter to the security of the country. We must do something to find out the truth."

COLOMBO, March 2, (Reuter): A Sri Lankan soldier killed seven colleagues and wounded six in a shooting rampage in barracks before his commanding officer shot him dead, police said today.

They said the soldier grabbed an automatic rifle and five other guns and fired off about 300 rounds of ammunition at midnight yesterday in the barracks at Oruwala, 25 km (15 miles) south of Colombo.

He shot dead seven soldiers

US committed to the common defence of Europe

Nato leaders open summit with praise for arms treaty

BRUSSELS, March 2, (UPI): Nato Secretary-General Lord Peter Carrington formally opened the Nato Summit today with unequivocal praise for the new superpower arms treaty but he warned that a treaty and "one new Soviet leader" do not remove the military capability of the Soviet Union.

The 16 Nato leaders later went into private session where President Reagan was to reassure the allies that the United States will remain committed to the common defence of Europe despite its nuclear arms negotiations with the Soviets.

Carrington, who opened the summit, called the INF treaty eliminating ground-based medium- and shorter-range

nuclear missiles "one milestone that has been reached" in superpower relations.

Reduces

But he said, "one agreement which reduces some weapons, and, indeed, one new Soviet leader who is ready to reduce some tensions, however significant, do not in themselves remove the military capability and potential of the Soviet Union."

"Nato governments embarked many years ago on the search for better security at a lower level of forces but it is only a first milestone that has been reached," Carrington said.

Carrington said the meeting was "in chart the way ahead" for the allies.

Earlier Carrington greeted President Reagan as he arrived at Nato headquarters amid heavy being escorted by a dozen police motorcycles and a police helicopter overhead. Carrington greeted Reagan as he stepped out of the car and escorted him to the main entrance.

Journalists shouted questions at Reagan, asking him if he would send Secretary of State George Shultz back to the Middle East following the Nato summit for further consultations on a US peace initiative.

"We'll have a word about that later," the President said as he paused briefly to have his photograph taken with Carrington. The Nato head then escorted

Reagan to the main meeting room for the meeting.

"I am sure we all wish President Reagan and his negotiators well in their effort to secure an agreement on strategic arms reductions, which have the alliance's full support," Carrington said. "Beyond that agreement we all look forward to a more serious engagement with the Warsaw Pact on the central problems of European security arising from the imbalances we face in field of conventional forces and chemical weapons."

"In short, the INF milestone is the early stage of a long road," he said. "We must agree that alliance has made a strong beginning."

Carrington said that on

previous occasions — the last time the Nato heads met was six years ago — Nato conferences were called because of a crisis but said this time there was unity and solidarity.

After the formal remarks by Carrington, the heads of state gathered for what the Nato leader called "family portrait session" and what the White House has described in its news releases as a "class photo."

Following the photo session, the leaders gathered for the closed meeting.

High on the agenda for the talks were the issues of achieving a conventional arms balance between Nato and Warsaw Pact nations in Europe and placing a ban on chemical weapons.

Carrington said that on

China appears to be free from AIDS

BEIJING, March 2, (Agencies): The director of the World Health Organisation's AIDS programme said today that China appears largely free from the disease, but criticised its current official emphasis on trying to stop AIDS at the border.

Dr Jonathan Mann, on his first visit to China, also said WHO had agreed to contribute several hundred thousand dollars in assistance to China's AIDS efforts in exchange for Chinese acceptance of its prevention and treatment guidelines.

Mann, at a news conference on the third day of his five-day visit, said he accepted as reliable Chinese government studies showing acquired immune deficiency syndrome remains "very rare" among the country's 1.02 billion people.

China, which has blood-tested 20,000 people nationwide, has reported no full-blown AIDS cases and 13 people, nine of them foreign visitors or residents, infected with the AIDS virus.

Effort

However, he warned, keeping the disease from becoming a major public health risk "will not happen by itself — it will require sustained effort by the Chinese authorities."

Mann said that in meetings with Chinese health officials, he "made it clear" their current stress on keeping AIDS out of the

country — as a foreigners disease — has failed elsewhere.

"This effort to stop AIDS at the border will not be very effective," he said. "No society is immune to this virus."

In New York, a medical team has proposed that all newborn infants could be tested anonymously for the AIDS virus as a means of charting the spread of the killer disease in the United States.

Essential

The doctors from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health said such testing is essential for the United States to gauge what health resources will be needed in care for those who contract the disease.

The group, headed by Dr Rodney Hoff, said in a study in the March 3 issue of the New England Journal of Medicine that current ways of estimating the number of people infected with the AIDS virus are inadequate.

These include studying the spread of the disease in the two high-risk groups — homosexual men and intravenous drug users — and collecting data from screening blood donors and military personnel.

Meanwhile, the US government said yesterday that it intended to grant exclusive marketing rights for a promising new AIDS drug to Bristol-Myers Co.

Several killed in Soviet ethnic riots

MOSCOW, March 2, (Reuter): Several people were killed on Sunday in ethnic riots between Azerbaijanis and Armenians in the city of Sumgait, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said today.

Gennady Gerasimov said he did not know the exact death toll, or the nationalities of those killed. He said people had also been injured.

"There were several victims. Not many, but several," he told Reuters.

He said a criminal investigation was under way.

Sumgait, the Azerbaijani republic's second city, is at the centre of the latest outbreak of Soviet ethnic unrest.

Enforced

Gerasimov said an exact death toll should be available at a later date, adding: "I hope they will find those responsible and bring them to justice."

Troops and armoured cars enforced a curfew in Sumgait during the nights of Monday and Tuesday after the rioting.

Gerasimov said the city was quiet today but he did not know when the curfew would be lifted.

A Moscow dissident, Sergei Grigoryants, said earlier that 17 people had been killed and 70 injured in the Sumgait disturbances. There was no independent confirmation of those figures.

Grigoryants, who is of Armenian origin, was quoted as having said there were reports from Armenian families related to the victims in Sumgait.

Police in Sumgait, a Caspian Sea industrial centre just north of the Azerbaijani capital of Baku, also said the city was now calm.

In Baku, residents said the government was assisting Soviet Azerbaijani refugees who had fled their homes in Armenia during ethnic unrest in the Transcaucasian region.

An employee of Baku Radio, reached by telephone from Moscow, said aid was being given to Azerbaijani refugees who fled their homes in Armenia because

of the unrest over demands for the redrawing of regional boundaries.

Baku Radio reported yesterday that a commission had been established to help the refugees go back to their homes in Armenia.

Fled

The radio said it was unknown how many Azerbaijanis had fled Armenia. Some 160,000 Azerbaijanis live in Armenia, a republic of 3.1 million.

About 475,500 Armenians live in Azerbaijan, where the total population is 6.3 million. There were no reports that any of them had gone to Armenia because of the disturbances.

The unrest erupted in the Transcaucasian republics last month after the local assembly in a predominantly Armenian region of Azerbaijan, Nagorno-Karabakh, voted to seek reunification with Armenia.

Two people in Azerbaijan died in disturbances in a mountainous district close to Nagorno-Karabakh.

No violence has been reported in Armenia. But hundreds of thousands of people demonstrated last week in the capital, Yerevan, for the return of Armenia of Nagorno-Karabakh.

The newspaper said the crews of the four MiGs were later brought to Cairo for questioning.

Engaged

"But before they could be engaged, the Libyan pilots radioed that they came to Egypt to seek security and the right of political asylum," the newspaper said.

The mass defection was believed to be the largest ever involving Libyan personnel. It was the fourth time in just over a year that Libyan aircraft had sought refuge in Egypt, but the first time that four warplanes landed at the same time. The last three incidents resulted in political asylum for eight Libyans.

Security sources in Sidon last month told Reuters the two warplanes were held by a former Arafat official who was suspended last August for killing another Fatah official.

"We don't know where we were held at any time. This kidnapping was very professional and efficient. We did not, during the whole period see any face.

We were always transported in the trunk of a car," Stening said.

Both said they were ready to return to work in Lebanon.

Stening said he was held with Jorgensen "and that was a great comfort for both of us. We were never maltreated."

"The men we saw were masked and I cannot tell the number. The actual kidnapping was carried out by four men," he added.

Germans

A group holding two West German captives in Lebanon said today that one of them, Ralph Schray, could be freed within hours.

The "Freedom Strugglers" said mediation by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad had led to commitments and guarantees which could resolve Schray's case "within the coming hours if the demands are met."

Its typewritten statement was delivered to the An Nahar newspaper and an international news agency in Beirut with a coloured photograph of Schray.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Minister shot

KAMPALA, March 2, (UPI): A cabinet minister was shot and injured by gunmen who stole his Land Rover car in a Kampala suburb, police said today.

They said Industry Minister Aggrey Suti was ambushed in the car in the Tank Hill area of the capital yesterday as he drove home to lunch.

Suti, injured in the leg, was admitted to a nearby mission hospital and was said by a spokesman to be in stable condition.

Italians return

BERGAMO, Italy, March 2, (Reuter): Three Italian engineers held in Iraq for five months by Kurdish guerrillas returned home yesterday but it was still unclear if Italy had agreed to any conditions in exchange for their release.

The three, Sergio Cominetti Giuseppe Carrara and Roberto D'Onofrio, were kidnapped last autumn while working on electrical engineering projects in northern Iraq.

Plane crash

MOSCOW, March 2, (Reuter): Twenty people died when a Soviet passenger plane crashed in the west Siberian oil city of Surgut, in the western Moscow News reported today.

Thirteen people are still in critical condition after Saturday's crash, it said, quoting the chief doctor of a hospital in the regional capital, Tyumen.

President Suharto

JAKARTA, March 2, (UPI): President Suharto said today, prior to an election he cannot lose, that he is ready for another five-year term and will accept the nomination.

Freed UN men leave Beirut

(Continued from Page 1)

agency which they wanted settled," one source said. He added that the kidnapping was carried out by the gunmen without the knowledge of the Palestinian factions.

Moved

"The two hostages were then handed to Arafat's people who kept them as talks went on how the release should take place without any embarrassment to the Palestinian groups," he said.

The two were moved to several locations in the Ain Al Hilweh and Miye Miye refugee camps and were held in Sidon for the last three days, he said.

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Kuwait-Soviet relations hailed

Moscow may play more effective role to end Gulf war, hopes Barges

MOSCOW, March 2, (Kuna): Kuna's chairman and director general Barges Hmoud Al Barges hailed Kuwaiti-Soviet relations, saying Kuwaiti leaders highly value Moscow's support for key Arab issues.

But Barges, in an interview broadcast by Moscow television recently, indicated that the Soviets can and are hoped to play a more effective role in helping to bring the Iran-Iraq war to an end.

Barges was referring to Moscow's hesitation to approve prompt implementation of Security Council resolution 598 which ordered an immediate ceasefire in the Gulf war and withdrawal of troops of both

belligerents to the internationally recognised borders.

The Security Council permanent members are working on a draft resolution which would impose an arms embargo on Iran for its recalcitrant attitude towards resolution 598.

Foot-dragging

In the meantime, American and Western officials say the Soviet Union appears less than fully supportive of the trend as Moscow argues that political and diplomatic means should be first exhausted before an arms embargo was to be clamped on Iran.

The chairman of the Kuwait News Agency, criticising Moscow's "foot-dragging" about

penalties against Iran, said the Soviet Union can effectively employ its good ties with Iraq and Iran so as to bring their destructive war to a halt.

Fleets

Barges also requested the Soviet Union to put pressures on third-party recipients of Soviet weaponry, as not to let those arms leak to Iran where they would be used for prolonging the war with Iraq.

Queried on the presence of foreign fleets in the Arabian Gulf, Barges told the Soviet television the phenomenon was in no way peculiar to the Gulf, as such fleets exist in international waters all over the world. He further noted that the Soviet fleet

was in the Gulf too. Barges, however, questioned who created such circumstances that made it imperative for the foreign fleets to ply the Arabian Gulf.

On a Soviet proposal that a UN naval force undertake to protect commercial shipping in the Gulf, the Kuna chairman said Kuwait supports peace but cannot dictate to the Soviet Union and the United States on what they should or should not do.

All that Kuwait wants, Barges added, is to see security and peace prevail in the region and the world. For its part, Kuwait has always carried out its full commitments for the achievement of that end, he said.

As a superpower, the Soviet Union has certain obligations to meet for the cause of peace and security not only in the Gulf but also in occupied Palestine where women, children and elderly people are being slaughtered daily by the occupation forces, "which receive the backing from countries known for their stance at the Security Council," he said.

Barges called on the Soviet Union to dispatch a fully equipped medical team to Palestinian territories occupied by Israel to alleviate the sufferings of Palestinians who are being savagely repressed since they revolted against their occupiers early in December.

New chemical may increase yield

DR RIDDA Azzam, an Egyptian scientist, speaking at the Kuwait Agricultural Engineers Society meeting, on Tuesday said that a new chemical compound, which is able to enhance agricultural productivity in sandy soil, could possibly bring in a new era in the field of agriculture.

Dr Azzam said the compound increased soil productivity and fertility and acted against plant microbes, which doubled the yield. Lab experiments have shown that the substance improves soil productivity by slowly fertilising the soil and increasing the plant's resistance to arid conditions.

General Crest ends UAE visit

ABU DHABI, March 2, (Kuna): The Commander of the US Central Command, General George Crest left here today at the end of his short official visit to the United Arab Emirates.

General Crest was seen off by the Chief of Staff of the UAE Armed Forces Major General Mohammed Saeed Al Badi and other ranking officers as well as the US ambassador to the UAE.

The minister said he reiterated Kuwait's conviction that the American move was in violation of the UN headquarters agreement.

He said he and the American ambassador also discussed the forthcoming tour of the Gulf region by UN Assistant Secretary of State for Political Affairs Michael Armacost.

Osaimi also met Assistant GCC Secretary-General for

Osaimi, Howell discuss outcome of Shultz tour

Political Affairs Sief Bin Hashel Al Maskari.

Talks centred on GCC affairs and activities of the council's general secretariat.

Maskari was later the guest of honour at a lunch banquet hosted by Osaimi. Attending were acting Foreign Undersecretary Faisal Alsalem Al Mutawa and senior ministry officials.

Seminar on health awareness

RIYADH, March 2, (Kuna): A seminar on spreading health awareness in the Arab Gulf states is due to be held in Abu Dhabi on March 8 to 10.

Secretary-General of the Arab Gulf states Health Ministers Council Dr Jalal Ashi said in a press statement released here today that the seminar will be held according to a decision by the 24th Arab Gulf Health Ministers Conference lately held here.

The seminar's agenda includes a number of issues such as ways of protecting children and pregnant women from diseases and cooperating with the Gulf media to spread health awareness among the citizens.



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Austrian medical team to visit Kuwait

VIENNA, March 2, (Kuna): The medical head of the Viennese clinic, most often frequented by patients from the Arab nation, will lead a delegation of five eminent medical specialists to visit Kuwaiti hospitals from March 21 to 23 at an invitation by the Kuwaiti minister of health.

Head physician of the Vienna 'Rudolfiner Haus' Doctor Osama Hamid, an internal-medicine specialist, is to lecture on 'baloecology supporting clinical medicine.' Professor Dr Hanno Millei, a plastic-surgery expert, will talk about 'progress in plastic and reconstructive surgery.'

Professor Dr Klaus Ehrenberger, specialising in ENT (ear-nose-throat) is to lecture on 'functional surgery in ENT, including laser surgery,' while urologist Dr Maximilian Naethigall is to present a paper on 'erectile impotence.' Assistant professor Dr Lothar Wieke, who specialises in diagnostic imaging, chose 'magnetic resonance in diagnosis.'

The international fund's resources are mainly voluntary contributions by governments, development organisations, legal institutions and societies and individuals.

The donations received by the fund till April 1987 totalled \$8.5 million. The fund contributed in 224 projects in 81 states.

Role of private education sector lauded

THE assistant undersecretary for private education affairs at Kuwait's Educational Ministry, Dr Yacoub Al Sharrah, said the private sector was playing an important role in the country's development.

He told the *Seyassah* newspaper that the private education sector was growing swiftly and extending an educational service to different communities living in Kuwait.

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Saudi Arabia largest market for Dhaka manpower

DHAKA, March 2, (Kuna): About one hundred thousand of Bangladeshis may get jobs in Saudi Arabia this year, a local newspaper reported here.

The daily New Nation reported yesterday that about 70,000 Bangladeshis got jobs in Saudi Arabia, last year, according to unofficial estimate, and the number may rise to one hundred thousand this year.

The newspaper said that Bangladesh received 33 per cent of her total foreign exchange through export of manpower to Saudi Arabia, the biggest market for Bangladeshi manpower, during the past six years.

Bangladesh government, at the insistence of the Saudi authorities, has decided to recruit all Bangladeshis seeking jobs in the kingdom to avoid forgery and malpractices by private recruiting agencies.

From now on all those seeking jobs in Saudi Arabia will be recruited by the Bureau of Manpower and Bangladesh Overseas Employment Services Limited, a public limited company.

Besides, all those recruited will need clearance from the Home Ministry before getting passport and visa from the Saudi Embassy.

Saudi Arabia has reportedly objected to recruitment for jobs in the kingdom by private recruiting agencies following detention of people trying to get into the country with forged papers.

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2

Trooper '88 is the first 4WD wagon ever to offer MPI - Isuzu's unique Multi-Port Injection. MPI ensures that fuel is injected into the cylinders in just the right amount, at just the right instant. The result: quick, smooth response and better fuel efficiency.

3

TROOPER'S RENOWNED STYLE

4

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5

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6

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Shaheen leaves for Bangkok

KUALA LUMPUR, March 2, (Kuna): Kuwait's Foreign Under Secretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen left for Bangkok today evening after a four-day official visit to Malaysia.

At the Kuala Lumpur international airport in Subang, to send him off were several Malaysian Foreign Ministry officials and the Kuwaiti Ambas-

sador to Malaysia Essa Abdul Rahman Al Essa.

Shaheen's visit to Malaysia is part of his tour of Asian countries, including Thailand, Bangladesh and India.

During his stay in Malaysia, Shaheen met the Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar and handed over a letter of goodwill and friendship from the Kuwaiti

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed.

He also officially declared open the US \$2.5 million Kuwait Embassy complex in the Malaysian city. Shaheen is being accompanied by two officials of the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry Adel Abdul Rasoul and Fawaz Saud Al Sabah.

Kuwait ready to attend any Arab meet

KUWAIT stated yesterday its total readiness to attend any Arab gathering that enhances the pan-Arab interests, strengthens Arab solidarity and consolidates national unity.

Acting Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah told reporters that Kuwait, headed by HH the Amir, will not hesitate about taking part in any Arab meeting that cements Arab solidarity and unity and furthers Arab interests.

Sheikh Sabah was commenting on the recent proposals of the Algerian president for holding an extraordinary Arab summit to examine the situation in the

occupied Arab lands and the popular uprising of the Palestinian people.

"Kuwait will respond positively if it was officially invited to attend the summit," the top Kuwaiti official stressed.

Meanwhile, Sheikh Sabah received Aqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister, Khalid Ahmed Al Jassar, State Minister for Municipal Affairs, Mohammed Al Rifai and Justice Minister Dhari Al Othman.

Later Sheikh Sabah received members of the Municipal Affairs Committee, Abbas Al Khodhari and Abdul Rahman Al Assoussi.



● Children taking part in National Day celebrations in Salmiyah.

Books and toys exhibition opens

By Lima Al Khalafawi

AN exhibition of children's books and toys opened at the Mishref Fairgrounds yesterday with 38 local companies participating. About 11,000 books were on display in addition to computer equipment and software.

There were two special attractions at this year's exhibition.

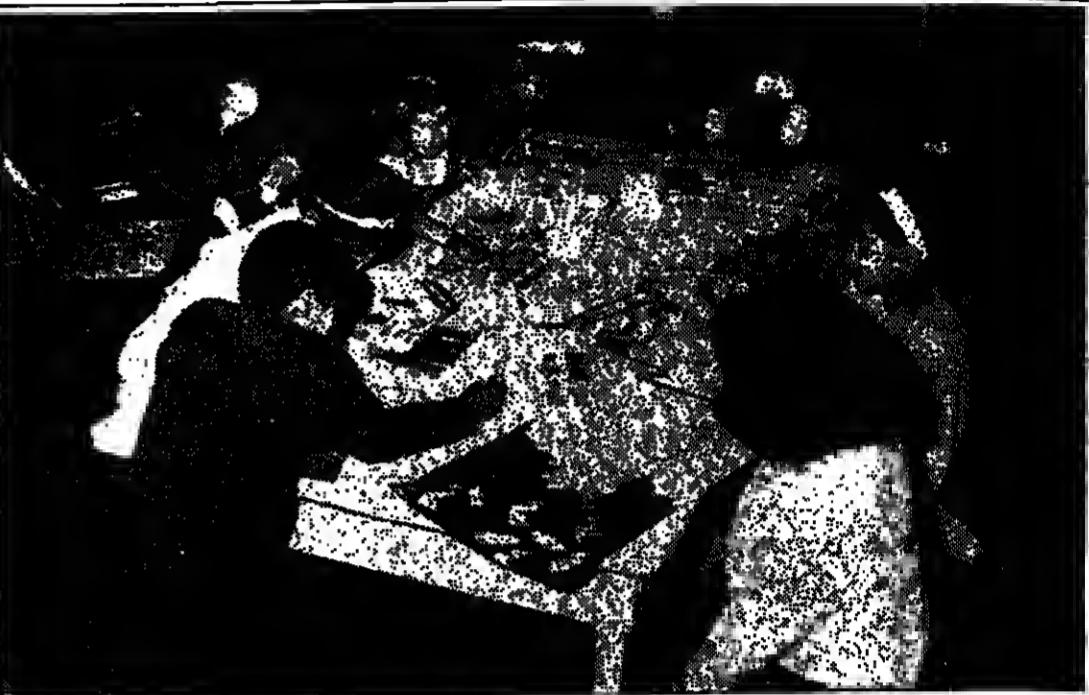
One was a road safety exhibit sponsored by Kuwait's General Traffic Department with displays of road signs and safety instructions for children.

Another special feature of the exhibition was an area where children were allowed to sit and paint, colour or draw.

Computer equipment on display included Arabic and English keyboards and programmes with colour monitors and printers. Computer games and educational programmes were popular items, drawing large crowds.

The exhibition was opened yesterday by the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Rashed Al Rashed, and is sponsored by the National Council for Arts, Culture and Letters.

Books and toys are on sale at competitive prices at the exhibition which will continue until March 11 from 9 am to 1 pm and 4 to 9 pm.



Children paint, colour and draw at the Mishref Fairgrounds exhibition.

Ideal Governorate Week

HAWALLI opened its Ideal Governorate Week on Tuesday as part of their National Day activities. The week will feature several exhibitions related to environmental protection, student programmes and a number of seminars at schools and universities.

Colonel Al Shamlan from the Hawalli Governorate who represented the Hawalli governor, said he hoped that focusing on environmental issues contributed toward protecting the environment.

The Assistant Undersecretary of Medical Stores at Kuwait's Ministry of Public Health Ibrahim Al Mudhaf praised the efforts of officials, citizens and the Environmental Protection Council in planning such an event.

Oman military delegation visits Morocco

MUSCAT, March 2, (Kuna): Minister of State for Defence Sayyid Al Mutasim Bin Hamoud Al Busaidi left here today at the head of a military delegation to Morocco for official visit expected to last for several days. Oman news agency reported.

During his visit, Al Mutasim will convey the greetings of Sultan Qaboos Bin Said to King Hassan II of Morocco on the 27th anniversary of his accession day.

The Minister of State for Defence is due to hold talks with senior Moroccan military officials on matters of mutual interest.

Flight Rider Club holds celebration

BRITISH Airways "Flight Rider Club" for youngsters is holding a celebration today. As an added attraction British Airways will fly a giant hot-air balloon above the Cooperative Road in Al Bida today from 4.30 and all day Friday.

Rajiv's message

A MESSAGE from India's Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi to HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah was delivered to the Director General of the Crown Prince's Office, Abdul Latif Abdul Rahman Al Bahar, by India's Ambassador to Kuwait, N.N. Jha yesterday.

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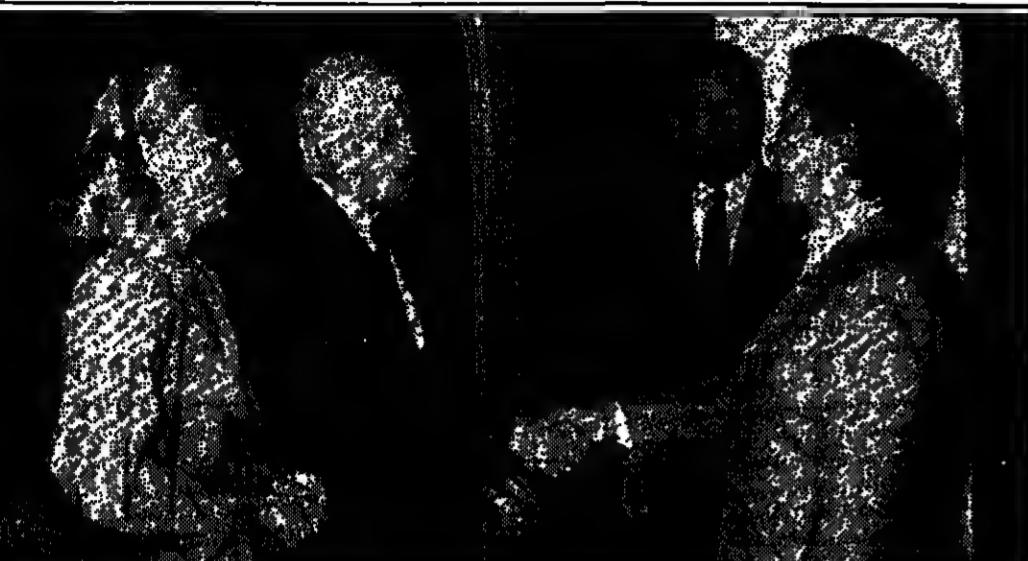
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KUWAIT.



● Japanese Ambassador to Kuwait Tadakiyo Nomura hosted a farewell reception on Tuesday evening at his residence in honour of Minister-Counsellor Katsuya Ikeda. Picture shows Ikeda greeting the Dutch Embassy Commercial Secretary G.J. Texier and Mrs Texier as Nomura looks on.



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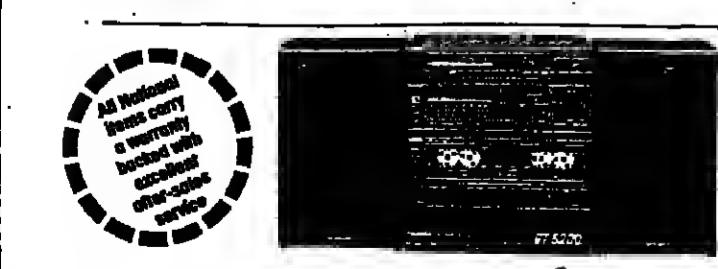
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20-band graphic equalizer, Memory scan, LCD spectrum analyzer
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4-Band (FM/MW/SW/SW) Mini 3-Piece Stereo Radio
Cassette Recorder with 4-Band Graphic Equalizer
Detachable 2-Way, 4-Speaker, Built-in AC transformer, 4-Band
Graphic Equalizer, One-touch rec, Line-In jacks, L/R separate
volumes, Auto-stop, 15W (PMPO) output power, 6x UM-1 "D"
size batteries.

RX-CW30F 40W
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Cassette Component System with Frequency
Distribution Equalizer
Built-in Frequency distribution Equalizer, 5-band graphic
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speed dubbing, Synchro dubbing start, Soft-eject, 2-way,
4-speaker, 8x UM-1 "D" size batteries.



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WHAT'S ON

SOCIAL

Desert BBQ
Kuwait Players will hold a Desert BBQ on Friday, March 11. Organised games for children. Newcomers particularly welcome. Tel: 5330934; 5613465.

Canadian Women's League
The next meeting will be held on March 6, 4 to 6 pm. Location of the meeting has been changed. Tel: 3718678 for further details.

Photography Contest
Kapilkul has extended the deadline to March 31 for submitting entries for the photography contest on "Portrait of Filipinos in Kuwait. The KPK.I.D. number must be mentioned on all entries. For details phone 4877793.

Kuwait Irish Society
St. Patrick's Day celebration on March 17 at the Holiday Inn Hotel. If interested contact 5621701/56222701, 8 am to 2 pm or 5624175 after 2 pm.

Rock 'n' Romance
Kuwait Players present Rock 'n' Romance, a rock show with a romantic touch at the Regency Palace Hotel at 8 pm on March 20, 21, 22 and 23 at 3 pm and 8 pm on March 24. For details call 5624175, after 2 pm, or 5745838.

Classical Singers
Well-known Indian ghazal singers Jagit and Chitra Singh will give a concert on March 4, Friday, at the Kuwait Hilton. Tickets on sale at the hotel.

Mina Bazaar
A Mina Bazaar will be held on March 4 at the EPI ground, Sulaibikhat, to mark the Independence Day of Bangladesh. A cricket match between Bangladeshi Red and Bangladesh Green will also be played. All Bangladeshis are welcome.

Danella
Daniella, a Danish group, invites all Danes to a coffee morning in Kuwait Towers from 9.30 am on March 6. For details contact Marianne 3948953 or Ingelise 3903464.

Kuwait Natural History Group
A meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 8, 7.30 pm, at the "Gulf" English School, Salwa. Mr. Quazi will give an illustrated talk on "Super Conductors in Kuwait". For details phone 3718417.

THEATRE

ACT
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Ibn Hayyan Pharmacy
Mubarak Al Kabir St.
Hawalli and Nugra
Al Joda Pharmacy
Tunis St.
Salmya and Rumaihiya
Al Nahda Pharmacy
Bahrain St.
Fahsheej and Ahmad
Al Adel Pharmacy
Awadi Bldg., Fheil
Farwaniya
Al Munawar Pharmacy
South Souk St.
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Cooperative Market

CINEMA TODAY

Al Andalus
The Living Daylights
Starring: Timothy Dalton
Al Salimya
Legal Eagle
Starring: Robert Redford
Al Hama
Al Nima Wal Uns (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim
Drive-In
Al Ma'loub (Arabic)
Starring: Mahmoud Yasseen, Imaan
Al Firdous
Siddoor (Hindi)
Starring: Jaya Prada
Fahsheej Open-Air
Jallianwala Bagh (Hindi)
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Dipti Naval
Al Fahsheej
Julie (Hindi)
Al Jahra
Al Bait Mal'oun (Arabic)
Al Nima Wal Uns (Arabic)
Starring: Adel Imam, Athar Al Hakim

Mix, stir, fry and eat



Table Talk

BY DINAH

ONE of the ironies of eating out is that some of the most enjoyable meals are those where you pay the restaurant for the privilege of cooking the food yourself at the table. Whether it's a fondue in Fontainebleau, a steamboat in Singapore, Satay in Surabaya or Sukiya in Sapporo, guests enjoy the fun and gemuetlichkeit of being involved in preparing their own food. One of the places you can do this in Kuwait is at the New Korean Restaurant, located on the first Mezzanine floor of the Sabieh Complex.

As the name suggests the restaurant specialises in Korean food, but also offers a wide range of Japanese and Chinese-style dishes. The menu makes delightful reading with promises of delicacies such as "massaged lean beef sirloin," "Chinese style hotch potch," "sea slug and abalone" or "boiled tail soup" (variety unspecified). One's enjoyment of all this is tempered slightly by a glance at the prices, as a lot of dishes are KD 3.500 to KD 5. For KD 15, though, you can order a set menu for two described as "An ordinary of Korean food."

We began our meal with Yang Jang Pi — a hot mixed vegetable dish with asparagus. Finely shredded carrots, cucumbers, onions, cabbage, roast beef, noodles and pieces of asparagus were attractively arranged in a wheel on a large plate and topped with a raw egg. The waiter then mixed the latter into all the other ingredients and the end-result was delicious — crisp, hot vegetables with a delicate, sesame flavour — rather like a cooked salad.

Combination
The next dish to arrive was the "Toasted beef ribs" which, to our surprise, turned out to be wafer-thin squares of tender, raw beef which were placed on a hot plate on the table to cook. The waiter explained that we were to dip the cooked beef into one of the six side-dishes he'd brought. These included Kim Chi — the fiery pickled Korean cabbage, a more subtle cabbage and sesame seed salad, spinach, sweet beans, shredded white radish and a salty sesame sauce. The different combinations these produced were delicious.

With perfect timing, just as we were savouring the last morsels of beef, the next dish arrived: Shrimp Bulgogi. Raw prawns marinated in garlic, sesame oil, sugar and soy sauce were again cooked on the hot plate. While we were turning them, two cast iron pots arrived containing boiled rice topped with shredded courgettes, carrots, onions, beansprouts and some unidentifiable vegetable with the texture of bracken! All of this was garnished with spicy sauce and a fried egg. Again the idea was to stir all the ingredients together and the result was a tasty dish of mixed rice which could have made a meal in itself.

FRIDAY
Kuwait
Al Ahlam Pharmacy
Souk Muttebeda, Fahad Al Salem St.
Al Rasheed Pharmacy
Ahmad Al Jaber St.
Hawalli and Nugra
Al Andalus Pharmacy
Opp. Andalus, Beirut St., Nugra
Salmya and Rumaihiya
Al Maida Pharmacy
Off Baghdad St.
Fahsheej and Ahmad
Abu Halifa Pharmacy
Opp. Secondary School, Coast Road
Farwaniya
Al Huwaila Pharmacy
Mustawsaf St.
Jahra
Al Noor Pharmacy
Abdul Aziz Nasrullah Bldg., Matafi St.

PRAYERS

Fajr 4.52 am
Zuhr 12.00 pm
Asr 3.20 pm
Maghreb 5.49 pm
Isha 7.06 pm
FRIDAY
Fajr 4.51 am
Friday Prayer 12.00 pm
Asr 3.20 pm
Maghreb 5.50 pm
Isha 7.06 pm

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Cartoons
10.00 Fi Rihab Tarbiya: an educational programme presented by Jassim Al Ghareeb.
11.00 Songs
11.30 Islam Wal Insaan religious programme.
12.00 Ma Da'a Wa Anhama Min Akhbar Jahan: Arabic serial.
1.00 News Summary
1.20 World News via Satellite
2.00 Liqa Al Kbamis: roundup of local events
3.30 Ibtal Al Mu'Laeb: cartoons
4.00 News Summary
4.15 The Saint.
5.25 Maktabat Ala Wa Hina:
6.00 Alwan: presented by Rola Farah
7.00 News Summary
7.30 Mafhoom Ayesb Farban: Arabic serial.
8.30 With Islam: hosted by Dr. Khaled Al Madhkour
9.00 News in Arabic
10.00 From People's Art
10.25 Kaddar Bain Al Zifat: Arabic feature film
7.00 News Summary
7.15 Kul al Funoon: hosted by Rasha Magdi.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

12.00 Late Night Variety Show: hosted by Amna Al Sharrab.
1.30 News Summary
1.35 World News via Satellite
FRIDAY
9.00 Holy Quran
9.30 Hikayat Min Al Alam.
10.00 News Summary
10.05 World News via Satellite
10.20 Children's Magazine.
11.00 Prophet's Saying religious programme, presented by Dr. Ahmad Abu Noor.
11.15 Friday Prayer
12.15 Min Wahi Al Ayaat Al Bayanat: religious serial
1.00 News Summary
1.20 World News via Satellite
2.00 INTERVAL
2.30 Preview of next week's programme on KTV
3.15 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Sharawi
4.00 Hindi feature film with Jeetendra and Reena Roy
7.00 News Summary
7.15 Kul al Funoon: hosted by Rasha Magdi.

10.00 Paul Daniels Magic Show.

10.30 Late Night Movie: "Portrait In Black" Starring: Anthony Quinn, Sandra Dee.
12.00 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

FRIDAY

3.00 Holy Quran
3.10 Sports Studio.
6.00 She Ra-Princess of Power
6.30 Al Wardi: "A Piece of Cake".

7.30 Spitting Image: "Your Life in their Hands".

8.00 News in English.

8.40 Breaking Away

9.05 Matlock: "The Professor".

9.30 Weekend: local programme.

10.00 What A Country: Mr. Brown is asked to stay away while the students sit for an examination conducted by the principal.

10.30 Wise Guy: Frank discovers Sonny's plot
11.30 News Summary/Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

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Jallianwala Bagh (Hindi)
Starring: Vinod Khanna, Dipti Naval
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

LET the people know the truth and the country is safe—
Abraham Lincoln, US President (1809—1865)

Sikh widows face daunting future

By Trish Saywell

NEW DELHI, (UPI): Rawail Kaur, 40, sits on her bed in a shabby one-room flat, a threadbare shawl draped over shrunken shoulders. Nightly she relives the horrifying incident that brought her to the "widow colony."

"I have nightmares about it," she said. "I recognised familiar faces in the mob—of neighbours and even police officers. Now I don't trust anyone."

She was mentally picturing again her husband and two sons, dragged into the street, battered with iron rods and burned to death by Hindus enraged by the Oct. 31, 1984, assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi by two Sikh hooligans.

The mob ransacked her home and set it afire as she stood frozen in terror.

"We are ready to fight and protect ourselves if they come back for us again," Kaur said, her eyes flashing in anger.

But for Kaur and hundreds of other illiterate Sikh women who saw their loved ones killed and their property destroyed in those riots, the future remains desperately bleak.

Bitterness runs high in the "widow colony," where Kaur and more than 900 single Sikh women were resettled in squalid flats, now ignored by a nation anxious to forget the mayhem that left more than 4,000 Sikhs dead.

Prosecuted

More than three years later, not one person has been prosecuted. Critics charge this is largely because most of the riot's organisers belong to Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party.

"The government has done nothing for the widows except give us Rs 20,000 rupees (\$1,200) for every death and these slum flats, for which they are now asking us to pay Rs 42,000" Kaur's mother said.

The old woman nurses anarhritic arm fractured by a club-swinging Hindu. Pungent aromas of cooking oil and cardamom mingle with the cries of children in the dark stairwell outside their room.

"They offered me a job as a street sweeper, but I refused," Kaur said.

She supports her ageing mother and a surviving son on a scanty income from a roadside cloth stall and a monthly \$23 stipend.

Removal of Ershad

Opposition leaders united on one point

By Malcolm Davidson

DHAKA, (Reuter): The women who lead Bangladesh's two main opposition parties are reputed to heartily dislike each other—but have pledged to join forces to oust President Hossain Mohammad Ershad.

Sheikh and Begum Khaleda Zia of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), spearheading a boycott of today's parliamentary elections, have traded angry words in the past.

In interviews this week they both said they got on with each other and insisted they were fighting the same battle.

Their parties have a joint committee, but the two leaders never share the same platform and have not met since New Year's Day.

"We have unity to one point, yes—to remove Ershad," said Hasina, speaking in the house where her father, Bangladesh's first President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, was assassinated in 1975.

"We believe in greater democratic process. First thing we want is the removal of this authoritarian government and true elections," she added.

Farce

Awami and the BNP, dubbed this week's poll a farce and have urged the country's 46 million voters to join the boycott. A 36-hour general strike called to disrupt the poll began to grip Bangladesh.

Diplomats and political observers say that although Ershad is deeply unpopular, his Jatiya Party is bound to be declared the resounding winner today.

They say Hasina and Khaleda

given to every widow by Sikh temple authorities.

A neighbour, Swaran Kaur whose husband was tied with his turban, doused with kerosene and burned alive by Hindus, is among 400 widows who accepted low-paying government jobs.

"They have not compensated us for the property we lost," said the gaunt 38-year-old woman as a casting a worried look at her 10-year-old son standing expressionless in the doorway.

"We were left with nothing but the clothes on our backs. Now the government wants us to pay for these rooms."

"Compensation for the widows has been meagre, and the obstacles to rehabilitating them are formidable," said Vina Das, a Delhi university sociology professor.

"I cannot imagine a time when things will become normal. As witnesses to the brutal killings, the women suffer from extreme psychotrauma, and acute depression is compounded by the almost daily fear of renewed violence."

Like Kaur, most of the widows come from the lowest income groups. By tradition they are the most vulnerable and shunned group in Indian society.

Sociologists helping the widows fear mostly for the children.

"The psychological effects on the children have been extraordinary," said Das. "How do you give these kids back the children they've lost?"

Relations between the Congress Party and the minority Sikh community deteriorated sharply after troops stormed the Golden Temple at Amritsar—the Sikhs' holiest shrine—to crush armed followers of Sikh separatist leader Jarnail Singh, Bhindranwale in June 1984. The assault led to Mrs Gandhi's assassination.

The government's apparent reluctance to punish those involved in the ensuing riots has helped push many young Sikhs into the terrorist camp.

"The government is not trying to punish the guilty ones," said retired Lt Gen J. S. Aurora, a Congress Party legislator and moderate Sikh leader.

A government probe "did not deny the fact that there had been a massive failure on the part of the police and that certain congressmen had been involved, but the conclusions only stated that the Congress as a party had not been involved," Aurora said.

Waldheim affair splits Austria

By David Lewis

VIENNA, (Reuter): Two years ago, Austria's image was largely of Lippizaner horses, apple strudel and Strauss waltzes.

Now, on the second anniversary of the Waldheim affair, many would say that image has changed. Business and tourism are to be suffering. Western heads of state and government are staying away.

Two years ago, former United Nations Chief Kurt Waldheim seemed the obvious candidate for head of state.

Now, elder statesman Bruno Kreisky said last week:

"He is known worldwide as a liar, and it is a catastrophe for Austria to have a liar as a president."

Waldheim, 69, is on the US "watch list" of undesirable aliens. No Western country will receive him, and the only Western government head to pay him an official visit has been the prime minister of tiny Liechtenstein.

And historical commission report last month said that Waldheim facilitated the execution of war crimes has plunged Austria into what Chancellor Franz Vranitzky describes as its deepest political crisis since World War II.

Economy

On tourism Vranitzky has said: "We cannot be indifferent to the fact that American tourists are not coming to Austria...." and "the economy is already feeling it."

The Austrian weekly news magazine Profil carried an article in its edition dated Feb 29 which gives a long list of examples of Austrian firms it says are being turned away because of Waldheim, particularly from the American market.

In Vienna Monika Hrabac says her Cosmos Travel Bureau is doing 70 per cent less business

Afghan communists are 'traitors'

Mujahedeen refuse to share power

By Oliver Wates

KOT CHANDANA, Pakistan, (Reuter): Talk of sharing power with communists is not popular in the bazaar at Kot Chandana, home for 180,000 exiled Afghans.

"They are traitors, they must be wiped out," said Haji Saifullah. "It's because of them we came to Pakistan. The jihad (holy war) must continue until they are annihilated."

"Not a single communist should be allowed to work in the government," added another refugee. A jostling crowd of turbaned Afghan men shouted their approval.

Excited

More moderate views can be heard in the quiet back streets of the vast camp of tents and mud houses by the River Indus in northern Pakistan.

"A coalition government must be formed so that the Russians will leave Afghan soil and the refugees can go home," said Abdul Malik, a young and articulate landowner from the northern province of Kunduz.

"For the time being a deal would be good if it led to a Russian pullout. But in the end we will not let communists have a

share in power because we are all Muslims and there is no room for them," he said.

Like the rest of the three million Afghan refugees in Pakistan, the inmates of Kot Chandana are excited at a diplomatic drive to end the conflict devastating their country.

But brief interviews with some 25 Afghan men—scarcely a single woman was to be seen during a five-hour visit—left an impression of uncertainty and differences about what they should do next.

"Hopes are very high," said Shafi Sabir, the Pakistani official in charge of the camp. "Everybody is expecting that something is going to happen."

Fraud

The Afghans rose by more than 10th against the Pakistani rupee in February, as refugees bought currency for a possible return, said money-changer Nazar Mohammad from Takhar province.

"As long as Russian agents are in power, it is as if the Russians are still on our soil," said Younis.

Struggled

Before the Russians were in our country, the Parcham and Khalid bombed, tormented and oppressed us," said Agil Khan from Logar referring to the PDPA's two wings.

"We struggled against these people before the Russians

will leave, it's just a fraud and a gimmick," said Mohammad Younis, a farmer from Balkh near the Soviet border.

"I think they should be forced out. Words and talk won't make them go," added Mohammad Salim from Logar, south of Kabul, sitting at work outside his tiny cobbler's booth in the busy main street.

On one thing all are agreed—their hatred for what they unanimously describe as the "puppet regime" of President Najibullah's People's Democratic Party (PDPA).

And all the men questioned—almost all spend some of each year fighting inside Afghanistan—pledged to continue their jihad if the Soviet Union pulled out leaving the PDPA in power.

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Struggled

Before the Russians were in our country, the Parcham and Khalid bombed, tormented and oppressed us," said Agil Khan from Logar referring to the PDPA's two wings.

"We struggled against these people before the Russians

were in the government," he added, to approving shouts from other patients and passers-by.

The group of 20 men gathered in a mud-walled room take a less hard-line stance. These are mainly supporters of a return of the former King Zahir Shah, overthrown after a 40-year reign in 1973, and are critical of the seven parties.

Critical

"The mujahedeen who are fighting at the front support a coalition and a Russian withdrawal, but not those who thrived and benefited from the continuation of war," said one.

"Those who live well in Pakistan want a government for themselves, but those who lead a miserable life here support the formation of a coalition government so the Afghanistan issue can be solved and they can return home," added another.

Most of those questioned said that if a Soviet pullout was followed by civil war, they would leave their families in Pakistan and go back to continue the fight.

The bazaar may be thriving, but for most of the inmates life in Kot Chandana is clearly no picnic. The United Nations, which funds it, has recently stopped issuing grants of tea and sugar as an unaffordable luxury.

Letters to the Editor

Publish currency rates

SIR: Since January, Arab Times has stopped publishing local exchange rates of different currencies from various exchange companies. Instead, there were two pages of world stock market rates. I do not know how many people are benefited by this change, but I am quite sure that a large number of your readers is deprived of the former service. Is there no way to bring it back?

Secondly, it is beautiful to watch the sea during high tide but if I follow the times published in your newspaper, I will never be able to make it. Can it be taken care of, please.

U.C. Sharma, Hawalli.

Editor's Note: We are now publishing the currency rates supplied by the Central Bank of Kuwait. The timings for high tide and low tide are provided by the Meteorological department and are supposed to be correct.

Put your act together

By Jim Muir

Lebanon events turn spotlight on Druze

Recent events have turned the spotlight on one of the country's smallest but most influential communities, the Druze.

The Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), as the Druze militia is called, is currently engaged in a tense crisis with the loyalist, Christian-dominated Lebanese Army command. When the PSP failed to return a helicopter in which a Druze officer had earlier defected from the Air Force, the Army on Jan 2, ordered a naval blockade of the coastline that the Druze control.

Although they make up only about 8 per cent of Lebanon's population, the Druze—hardy mountain folk with a centuries-old reputation as fierce warriors—have always played a role out of all proportion to their numbers.

In recent years, the Druze have carved out their own de facto canton in their traditional redoubt, the Shouf mountains southeast of Beirut.

When the Israelis withdrew from the Shouf in the fall of 1983, Jumblatt's warriors overran and razed more than 80 Maronite Christian villages. Tens of thousands of survivors fled to the Christian enclave north of Beirut.

That process was completed in April 1985, when the Druze swept down the mountains and drove the Christian militia out of the coastal towns, giving the Druze a foothold on the sea.

Despite the bloodshed, Christian leaders now vie for Jumblatt's favour, knowing that their stock will soar if they can preside over a return of the Christian refugees to the Shouf.

Everybody knows that the Druze and the Maronites are the only real long-distance runners in Lebanon," said one Christian party official. The primordial and often bloody relationship between the two mountain communities has been at the core of Lebanese politics for centuries.

Jumblatt appears to have taken that to heart, bending with the winds and establishing independent relationships with numerous local and outside forces.

He has a direct line to Moscow, and in 1986 remodelled the PSP on Soviet Communist Party lines. He visits Libya and openly admits to receiving money from Col Khaddaf. Last year, he sent hundreds of his militiamen to fight for Libya in Chad, in return for payment in US dollars.

Close to home, Jumblatt has discreet links with Palestinian groups, some of which have bases in the Druze area. The Druze are

The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

Le Pen woos boot boys at campaign rally

By Simon Haydon

VERSAILLES, France, (Reuter): In the crowded hall, youths wearing boots crane up the battle cry, "France for the French, immigrants out," as Jean-Marie le Pen embraces a baroness, the latest convert to his controversial cause.

Baroness Laurence Bich, wife of the founder of the BIC pen empire, paid an impassioned homage to Le Pen, leader of the extreme right-wing National Front Party, at an election rally last week in the shadow of the Palace of Versailles.

"Afraid of Jean-Marie le Pen? On the contrary, he's just what France needs to stop the slide into decadence," Bich told 3,000 people at the rally, held to launch the final phase of his campaign to become president.

During the election campaign, the former UN chief seemed almost to thrive on a return to his former life.

Recently he has shown signs of anger, and admitted that the unrelenting accusations are getting to his nerves. But he vows to stay in office out of duty to the people who elected him.

Le Pen enters the hall to the grandiloquent prelude of Verdi's opera "Nabucco," fists pumping in the air like a boxer entering the ring. He strides around the stage, microphone in hand, smiling broadly.

Whistles and jeers greet Le Pen's stinging criticism of well-known French Jewish journalists as he launches into a tirade against communists, liberals, "soft" conservatives, anti-racists and "leftist" clergymen.

Outside the Versailles congress hall, worried Le Pen aides ordered officials not to let too many of the dozens of youths, hair shorn and wearing high-ankle boots, into the meeting.

Indian cinema suffering from over-production

Futile search for good taste and quality

By Firoze Rangoonwala

If it is a question of sheer quantity, nobody can beat India, which still retains its title as the biggest film producer in the world. Last year again, a record number of 806 films were made in twenty languages.

According to figures collected at the six censor board offices in different cities, the total number certified, including imported films, touched 1,005 in 1987. But this time there were more foreign films, due to the liberal policy of import by the Non Resident Indians (N.R.I.s). The Indian production of 806 actually showed a decline as compared to previous years. In 1984 the figure rose to 833 for the first time and it was 840 in 1986. But the all-time record-breaking was done in 1985 with 912 Indian films.

Last year's decline can be attributed to several reasons. Many theatres were taken up by the N.R.I.s, which contained sex and violence and drew bigger audiences than the Indian films. Distributors were not easily buying new films due to the heavy costs of prints and publicity (each dollar print costs nearly 40,000 rupees). Several completed films kept lying in the cans. The long strike in the cinemas of North India further led to a fall in releases, as producers did not want to lose one big zone. Consequently production also got slowed



Jaya Prada in 'Sindoor'. One of the better films of 1987.

down, as there was not enough finance to complete the films.

A break-down on the basis of languages also shows a strange pattern. Though Hindi films are the most known and shown all over, their actual figure was only 150, i.e. about 19 per cent of the total output of 806. The South's films totalled up much better, the score in four languages coming at 520 films i.e. 65 percent of the total. Of these, Tamil and Telugu films were at the top, with about 165 films each. Here too, the total output was less as compared to the previous year, mainly due to some big flops.

Malayalam production came down to a hundred films while Kannada showed a surpris-



Films filled with action, revenge and violence were safe at the box-office, like Dharmendra's 'Hukumat'.

ising rise to 88.

Of the rest, there were 35 films in Bengali, 27 in Marathi, 14 in Bhojpuri, 11 in Gujarati and less than ten in Oriya, Punjabi, Assamese, Haryanvi, Nepali, Garhwali and Rajasthani. One film each was made in Brijbhasha (of North India) and Kunnavi (of the hill tribes). This time, there were no films in Bodo, Manipuri, Avadhi, Sindhi or Karvi as in 1986.

The production load was divided between two main centres, with Madras making 251 films and Bombay handling 172. Bangalore, Trivandrum, and Hyderabad had an average production of 110 films each. The smallest centre with 64 films still remains Calcutta, though films in five languages including Nepali are made here. However, there are no hard and fast rules of the entire shooting being done in these particular centres. Films in one language are shot in other provinces, even apart from the outdoor

locations. For example, if a state like Kerala or Karnataka offers subsidy, then many outsider films are made there. Moreover, films are certified in centres other than those where made. This is to take advantage of the liberal boards in some places. Producers even set up temporary offices at these centres.

Contributed

Last year, the South contributed a lot to the Hindi film output. In Bombay itself, only 96 Hindi films were produced and censored (most of them falling in trouble with the examining and revising committees and some even in the Appellate Tribunal). On the other hand, 31 Hindi movies were made in Madras, ten in Hyderabad, five each in Bangalore and Trivandrum and four even in Calcutta. The large number of different language films shows the vast cultural diversity of India and the desire of the people of each province and even dialect to make and hear a film in one's own tongue. Over the years, films have been made in thirty languages and dialects, though, many were given up after one or two attempts as the markets were too small.

Last year, the imported films rose to 200, though the figure is much less than in earlier years (like 334 in 1952). But it is a marked increase over the previous three years, with 1984 being as low as 57 foreign films. Many of them selected by the N.R.I.s (locally called as non reliable Indians) were of a cheap quality meant only for commercial exploitation. Their explicit sex scenes were also publicised through crude posters etc. and got some theatres into trouble.

On the Indian front itself, there was not much to crow about so far as quality is concerned. In fact, quality becomes a casualty because of excessive production and the monopolies it breeds among the handful of stars and composers, who are most in demand and whose names are supposed to sell at the box-office. Is it not a pity that a country making 800 films annually cannot easily find a film to be entered for the Oscar awards? (Not a single movie has won an Oscar any time in the past). This year, the Tamil film "Nayakan" starring Kamal Hassan has been sent though many don't consider it a happy choice. There is a similar difficulty in finding entries for Berlin, Cannes, Venice and other festivals. Last year, too, Indian cinema drew a blank in the international arenas.

The production boom does not match with quality or even a reasonably good standard in the average commercial film. Most of them can be just brushed aside as stupid and crude. Box office success is also no criterion for good quality. At times, it is exactly the reverse. In 1987, the films to hit the goldmine were Pratigraha, Hukumat, Aag Hi Aag, Kudrat Ka Kanoon, Marte Dam Tak, Sindoor, Mr India and Khudgarz. Also getting good collections were Loha, Insaaf, Kaun Karega, Parivar, Sansar, Dance and Watan, Ke Rakhwale. Of these, only Khudgarz, Mr India, Sindoor, Kudrat Ka Kanoon and Sansar had some good qualities. In the absence of really superior stuff, somewhat better films like Mirla Jawa, Kaash, Dacai, Parama Debsishu or Pushpak got over-praised. They were like silver needles in a haystack. Yet Pushpak deserves fulsome praise for being totally different and inventive.

And now another year of 800 to 900 films being frenetically made will end probably in the same futile search, for good taste and quality.

BEHIND THE SCREEN

Hema Malini is playing "Indira" in a new film which was started recently. But it has nothing to do with the late Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi. To avoid any misunderstanding, Hema goes around saying that she is playing Advocate Indira. Don't be surprised if they change the title too.

Sanjana Kapoor (Shashi's daughter) has set a new record for the whole Kapoor clan. There was an unwritten law coming down from Prithviraj and Raj Kapoor that no daughter of the family would ever act in films, though actresses may be used as daughters-in-law on the condition that would give up their careers. But Sanjana has beaten them to it by becoming Naseeruddin's beloved in "Hero Hiralal". Left behind is Karishma, daughter of Randhir Kapoor and Bahita who wanted to be the first.

Salma Agha feels so scalded after appearing in scanty clothes in "Jungle Ki Beti" that she quickly wants to wash away the image. Moreover, it did not do for her, what "Tarzan" had done for Kimi. So Salma comes over-dressed to the neck in parties and functions. How she wishes that just one more "Nikah" would come her way.

Archana Puran Singh has not landed anything big despite the modest success of "Jalwa" in big cities. Her boy friend Pankaj Parasher is also of no help. He goes around with her but keeps her in her place while handling star-studded films. She may end up doing supporting or dancing roles. Or perhaps after "The Perfect Murder" she may go international and one up on her unfaithful lover boy.

The number of cakes made for birthday parties and presented to the stars are according to their dates of birth. So Shatrughan born on ninth was made to cut nine cakes and Govinda eleven. What will they do with a star born on 31st?

Sunil Dutt after his long "Padayatra" (foot march) from Bombay to Punjab is now going for a similar one in Japan. It will end at Hiroshima where Sunil will plead for world peace and end to nuclear weapons. He has also asked other stars to join, knowing very well that they will not walk ten feet outside their air conditioned cars. After all, Sunil wants all the limelight for himself. But then, people ask, when will he find time to make films or act in them?

Young Amala has already started harassing her Hindi producer Surendra Mohan of "Teri Talash Main". She gave four dates in place of fourteen. And she does not even have a Hindi film to her credit yet, ("Pushpak" was a silent film.)



Salma Agha dressed modestly after her scantily-clad exposure in 'Jungle Ki Beti'.



Archana Puran Singh: put on the sidelines by her boy-friend. If she is dropped by producers, she won't be noticed. Surendra Mohan has not only changed the heroine (to Poomam) but also changed the title of the film to "Hisah Khoon Ka."

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OVERLAND TRANSPORT COMPANY buys MACK



Bahrain Trading Company has won a contract for the supply of 135 MACK Tractors and 90 Nos. 3-Axle Trailers to the Overland Transport Company K.S.C.

Picture shows Mr. Naser Mohamed Al-Sayer, Chairman of the Al-Sayer Group of Companies, formally receiving the contract from Mr. Ahmed Shihab Al-Waheed, Chairman & Managing Director of Overland Transport Co.

By Keith Wells

I HEARD a marvellous idea the other day, from the leader of the American Rhino Party. No, I've never heard of him either, but his idea is a real winner. He wants to save energy costs all over the world by the brilliantly simple tactic of lowering the boiling point of water!

Fantastic eh? Power stations will need much less coal to boil the water to drive the steam turbines, gas stoves will become a thing of the past since you'll be able to do all your cooking over a candle, or a match if you prefer fast food. Better still, if say, the boiling point were dropped to fifty degrees centigrade, instead of a hundred, it'll only take half as long to boil a kettle of water for a cup of tea.

All of this is marvellous, but I think it can be improved so if we go the whole hog and raise the freezing point at the same time, that way you'll be able to make ice cubes in a cool breeze instead of an expensive refrigerator. An AC can double as a deep freeze, even a small fan will be enough to damage the inalienable rights of a brass monkey.

Science

Of course, once science starts to take radical steps like these the whole map of the future changes. For a start I'd like to see the leading nations of the world move over to a flat earth policy, free us forever from the tyranny of gravity. I mean, who needs it any way? Gravity only wears you down, makes things sag and wobble with age, so why do we put up with it? I'll tell you why, we only need gravity because we foolishly cling to the old fashioned idea of a round earth. If the earth is round then we have to have gravity to help us stick around,

A few suggestions

without it we'll all fall off. But gravity has terrible side effects, if you don't believe me, just look at old people, gravity is dragging them down into the grave, they sag, they bend, they creak and groan. Gravity — gravity, it even sounds like there's a direct connection.

Now look at the benefits of a flat earth; everyone can stand up for themselves without any gravity to help them. Better still, life would get an edge, a real place to take troublemakers and dispose of them neatly and quickly once and for all. I suggest we re-arrange the map, I know the folks at KTV will help with this since they are world leaders in the field. The thing to do is put all the nice, friendly, stable countries safely in the middle, and then arrange all the nasty, difficult, aggressive ones around the edge. Any more trouble and one quick shove is all we'll need to get rid of them forever.

While we're at it, let's make a few more revolutionary changes. The speed of light, for example, is much too fast. All those billions of kilometres per second or whatever it is, it's bound to cause accidents. Slow it down, I say, make it take things easy for a change and everyone will benefit. Just imagine, if you didn't see something until a day or so after it had actually happened, you'd have plenty of time to get over it. Like when your wife comes in with an outrageously expensive coat, you wouldn't see it till payday, so it wouldn't be half so painful. Or if you crashed your car you wouldn't see the other car approaching until after you were safely in the hospital. Slow lightning wouldn't

be half so frightening as the present flashy kind.

The sea is another subject for change. There's too much of it just sitting there, no good to anyone except a bunch of sailors and a few lazy fish. Why should the sharks get all the real estate? I say we should drain at least seventy per cent of the sea and just leave enough for the fish fingers and some nice coastlines. All that wasted stuff in the middle should be sent right back down the plughole. This will obviously release billions of acres of new land so that over-populated places like China, India or Hawaii could spread themselves out and enjoy all the benefits of the American Midwest. Fancy being able to say I'm a mid-Pacific farmer, or I've got a thousand acre spread in the mid-Atlantic. Another useful result would be that land prices everywhere would plummet and sooner or later everyone would be able to afford an acre of Mayfair or Park Lane.

Then there's the Arctic and the Antarctic, a real waste of resources if ever I saw one. I mean, who needs a million square mile deep freeze? Not that they are even using it for that, at present. It's just a waste of space. If the freezing point of water was raised, the ice would all melt, then we could get on with the business of draining the Antarctic, kick out the penguins who've had their own way for far too long and start selling nice little plots of real estate with a view of the South Pole, which would become a real landmark without all that water covering up the bottom four fifths of it.

NEW Hampshire can be a lonely place once the primaries are over. I realised this when I saw a sign on the border that said: "Will the last reporter leaving Manchester please turn out the lights?"

I stopped for gas at a 7-Eleven in the town of Boot. The gas man, seeing my press credentials on the windshield, put his snow cap on and rushed over.

"If you want a wider shot you can set your TV cameras over there," he said.

"I'm not here to set up cameras," I told him. "I just need some gas."

"Don't you want to know my opinion of George Bush?"

"It's too late. Nobody in the United States cares what you think about Bush anymore."

"Dan rather cared what I thought. He stuck his mike in my mouth for two minutes."

"Dan's only interest now is South Carolina."

That isn't what he told me. He told me what people in New Hampshire say about Bush could change the results of the election. I gave him some Twinkies because he let me say hello to my mother."

"I would like a cup of coffee."

"Jack Kemp always had

The Art Buchwald Column

Lonely New Hampshire



a cup of coffee before he went out on the campaign trail. He sat right on that box over there next to Gary Hart."

Kemp didn't know it was Gary Hart. He thought it was Warren Beatty.

"What was Gary Hart doing in a 7-Eleven?"

"He said he was looking for a voter to talk to — any voter."

"This seems to have been a busy store."

"We're the last 7-Eleven before you get to Concord, so everybody loads up here. Tom Brokaw brought a Spam sandwich from me last month and asked if I was going to vote for Dukakis. I told Tom I would if I assured me of getting on the evening news. I said in New Hampshire can't make up our minds unless we know we're appearing on prime time."

"I was about to call it a night when Ted Koppel came by with his crew and asked me to go on split screen as a typical Boot, N.H. resident. I told him I'd be delighted since I had already done it for Dan Rather, Bryant Gumbel, Oprah Winfrey and Phil Donahue."

Ted said he was looking for someone who wasn't so overexposed, so I called up my cousin who had only been on '60 Minutes.' The trouble with you TV fellers is you think that you can just drive up and find a New Hampshire media virgin who has never been interviewed on television."

"You can relax now," I said. "New Hampshire has had its day in the sun."

"Don't sit near the corn flakes," the man cried. "Barbara Walters sat there when she talked to me about Mrs. Dole. She asked me lots of personal questions about her?"

"Did you answer them?"

"It was hard because Mrs. Dole only came in a couple of times, bought frozen yogurt and ate it in the car. You can't get a read fix on a candidate's wife from that."

"But Barbara didn't care?"

"She couldn't have been nicer, especially when she found out my brother drives a plow for the Department of Transportation. You want any pictures of me holding up the photo of the Russian missiles in Cuba that the Rev Robertson left behind!"

"Why did he leave it behind?"

"He said the people of New Hampshire were the only born-again voters who knew he was telling the truth."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

By Jonathan Rowe

BOSTON: One of the more promising new developments in the medical field is also one of the most unusual. It will cause no frenzied trading on Wall Street, has no adverse side effects, and involves no increases in medicare costs.

It is called laughter. Alison Crane, who recently founded the American Association for Therapeutic Humour, in Skokie, Ill., is among its leading advocates.

When Ms. Crane was working as a nurse in a Chicago hospital, she recalled in a recent interview, she had an 83-year-old patient named Alice.

Like many older patients, Alice never wanted to be a burden to others. Unable to walk unaided, she would lie for hours in mounting discomfort, before calling a nurse to help her to the bathroom.

One day, while she was helping Alice get to that destination, Ms. Crane started snapping her fingers. Alice picked up the best with a rendition of "Shuffling Off to Buffalo," which blossomed into a gospel medley. From that day on, these excursions changed from a painful chore to something to look forward to.

She was in Cambridge, Mass., recently to address more than 600 courses, social workers, and others at a conference on "The Power of Laughter and Play." Similar gatherings this year in San Francisco and

Laughter: the best medicine

Toronto drew as many as 1,000 people.

"It's really taking off," says Linden Skjeie of the Institute for the Advancement of Human Behaviour in Portola Valley, Calif., organiser of the events. "To get over something defined as terminal, you have to be very creative."

Sceptics

For sceptics there was ample ammunition, as the very latest in California pop therapy chic — from visualisation to hugging — was on prominent display. In case anyone missed the point, volunteers dressed as gypsies and clowns greeted participants with feathers, balloons, and admonitions to smile. "Trying too hard can become a parody of itself," observed Arlan Dean, a New York City comic and conference volunteer.

Yet mixed with the silliness was genuine wisdom, as well as evidence that the medical establishment is starting to give people credit for the role they play in their own healing.

Hospitals are setting up rooms where patients can watch old Marx Brothers and Woody Allen movies and listen to Bob and Ray tapes — the way Norman Cousins, former editor of the Saturday Review, did in his much-publicised quest of a disease generally regarded as incurable.

Even the NFL is getting involved — Nurses For Laughter, that is. The organisation produces a button that reads, "Warning: Humour May Be Hazardous to Your Illness."

In an opening presentation, Gerald Jampolsky and Diana Ciriocione, his wife, explained the principles that guide their work with, among others, individuals diagnosed as having AIDS.

"We have to go beyond body," said Dr. Jampolsky, a former medical doctor and reformed alcoholic, who founded the Centre for Attitudinal Healing in Thurmond, Calif. "We have to heal our hearts, heal our thoughts."

"It's never the situation (that's to blame). It's never the other person. It's always our thoughts and attitudes about them."

In an interview afterwards, Ms. Ciriocione said, "People come to their centre to find ways to be of service," she said. "People get so involved in helping other people, they lose awareness of their bodies."

"I'd rather talk about issues. For example, hurting inside. That's the problem."

Joel Goodman, who edits a magazine called Laughing Matters, said his interest in humour and healing began with a hospital driver named Alvin, who helped lift the Goodman

family's spirits when his father was undergoing heart surgery. "Alvin did more than the heavy-duty professionals," Mr. Goodman says.

So Goodman started the Humour Project, in Saratoga, N.Y., the goal of which is to set off a "contagion of inverse paranoid" who think "the world is out to do them good."

The idea is catching on, Goodman says. Humana Hospitals has enlisted his assistance, and a major medical school has approached him regarding ways to inject humour into its curriculum.

All of which has pitfalls, as Goodman acknowledges. "Let's organise and kill it," he says, describing the danger of trying to plan humour in an academic or institutional setting.

Laugh

Indeed, few things kill a good belly laugh faster than a discussion of its advantageous biochemical properties. And some conference participants saw other causes for concern, such as creeping expert-itis.

Alison Crane notes that humour is, by its very nature, irreverent toward conventional authority. Himmelman wanted to make jokes about the Nazi government illegal, she says.

The Christian Science Monitor.

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By Keith Wells

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Taiwan sees slower imports of coal and oil in 1988

TAIPEI, March 2. (Reuters): Taiwan will slow down energy imports in 1988 after record purchases of coal and near-record oil imports last year, a government spokesman said today.

Coal imports in 1987 jumped about 31 per cent to a record 14 million tonnes against 10.7 million tonnes in 1986, the spokesman said.

Oil imports rose 7.4 per cent to 20.2 million kilolitres (444.3 million gallons) from 18.8 million kl (413.5 million gallons). Oil imports reached a record 20.4 million kl (448.7 million gallons) in 1984.

Demands

The spokesman, from the Economic Ministry's energy commission, attributed increased demands for energy to high economic performance. Taiwan's gross national product grew 11.04 per cent in 1987.

"We see a moderate rise of imports in both coal and oil this year because of lower GNP growth," he said.

GNP is forecast to grow at about seven per cent in 1988.

Taiwan imports coal mainly from Australia, the United States, South Africa and Canada. Its oil comes from Saudi Arabia, Oman, the UAE, Kuwait, Malaysia and Indonesia.

Taiwan has foreign exchange reserves of about \$76 billion, the world's largest after Japan, but produces only a small amount of fuel.

The spokesman said Taiwan's coal production fell to 1.5 million tonnes in 1987 from 1.73 million in 1986. Output is expected to fall further this year.

Soviet economist predicts massive job shifts by year 2000

MINNEAPOLIS, March 2. (Reuters): A leading Soviet economist said today that 10 million Soviets, including 30 to 50 per cent of all government bureaucrats, will be forced to change jobs by the year 2000 as a result of economic reforms.

"By our calculations by the year 2000 about 16 million people will have changed jobs," said Abel Aganbegyan, chief economist of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and a key advisor to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

He said structural changes resulting from Gorbachev's "perestroika" reforms will cause massive worker dislocation.

"Starting in 1989 we're going to take real steps to reform the whole price system of the country," Aganbegyan said, adding the changes would soon affect employment, including the reduction of jobs in local, regional and central governments.

"So we're going to reduce by 30 to 50 per cent the (number of) bureaucrats working there," he told a Minnesota civic group.

But he added: "We don't think there's going to be any unemployment, because there's a tremendous demand for labour throughout the country."

Oil prices tumble

Yamani predicts another energy crisis

LONDON, March 2. (Reuters): Former Saudi Oil Minister Ahmed Zaki Yamani reappeared in public this week in the role of a harbinger of doom, predicting another energy crisis.

Yamani, in a rare public speech, renewed a theme he regularly dwelt on before he lost his job in October, 1986 — that there must be a dialogue of oil producers and consumers.

The Gulf Opec states alone controlled 83 per cent of all reserves.

The Gulf Opec states alone controlled 70 per cent.

Yamani also spoke about the current oil market, characterised by a glut in which free market quotes have dipped below \$15 a barrel in recent days while Opec struggles to charge a fixed contract price of \$18.

"We have a unique situation," Yamani said. "The least we can say is it is chaos. No one can say what the price will be next month."

No Opec country, he explained, was prepared to be a "swing" producer and adjust its output to match demand — a role, analysts say, that Saudi Arabia abandoned in 1985.

The Opec official \$18 price, Yamani said, "is now put on the shelf as long as we don't have someone to protect it."

But Yamani was pessimistic.

"Low" energy has a low profile," he said. Political leaders, particularly in democratic countries, were prone to ignore longer term dangers and look only a few years ahead.

The basic of the coming crisis emerged in the 1970s, Yamani said, when nations outside the Organisation of Petroleum

Exporting Countries (Opec) raised their oil output to reduce what they saw as dependence on the organisation.

They were now burning up their oil. But Opec, although at present accounting for only 40 per cent of world output, controlled 83 per cent of all reserves.

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China boosts overseas investment

PEKING, March 2. (Reuters): China announced today a big increase in investment abroad and said it was discussing joint investment with the Soviet Union and other East European countries.

The Economic Daily said China was discussing joint investments with the Soviet Union and countries in East Europe and with nations with which it has no diplomatic relations.

In an accompanying editorial, the newspaper said investment abroad was extremely important for opening up China to the outside and taking part in the international economic system.

China started such investment in 1979 and by the end of last year had set up 385 firms with total assets of \$1.78 billion in 67 countries and regions.

Peking says foreign investment is vital to its strategy of joining the world economy and

making up for years lost during political campaigns inside the country.

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WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, MARCH 3-4, 1988

International Bond Highlights

Frankfurt—Deutsche Bank AG said it is lead-managing a bullet 150 mln mark Eurobond for Koninklijke Nederlandse Hoogovens En Staalfabrieken NV. The 6-3/8 pct bond is priced at 99-3/4. (RTTB 1006)

Zurich—Zurich Insurance Co is launching a 250 mln Swiss franc 2-1/4 pct, 6-3/4-year bond with warrants at par, lead manager Credit Suisse said. (RTWT 1620)

Zurich—Japan's Mitsubishi Trust and Banking Co Ltd is launching twin 100 mln Swiss franc issues of convertible five-year bonds and notes with an indicated 7-7/8 pct coupon and par pricing, lead manager Credit Suisse said. (RTTA 0956)

London—The coupon on the 100 mln dlrs, five year equity warrant Eurobond for Nippon Sanso K.K. has been cut to 4-1/2 pct from the indicated 4-7/8 pct, lead manager Yamaichi International (Europe) Ltd. This is the lowest coupon since the Japanese equity warrant market reopened in January. (RTTY 1236)

London—Righter Two Ltd, a sole purpose company incorporated in the Cayman Islands, is issuing a 70 mln dlrs floating rate note due May 22, 1991 paying 23 basis points over the six month London interbank offered rate and priced at 100.10 pct, lead manager New Japan Securities Ltd said. (RTZS 0830)

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 9 8-3/4	9 8-7/8	9 5/16 3/16
FFT 3-25/35	3-35/45	3-35/45
PAR 7-5/16 3/8	7-1/4 3/8	7-3/8 1/2
ZUR 1/8 3/8	1-1/8 1-3/8	1-5/8 1-7/8
BRX 7.05	6-1/16 5/16	6-1/16 3/16
RON 10 10-1/2	10-7/8 11-3/8	10-7/8 11-3/8
AMS 3-3/4 3-7/8	3-7/8 4-0/0	3-15/16 4-1/16
TKD 315000 5625	3-8750 9375	3-7500 8125
ECU 6.06 6.31	6.06 6.18	6.31 6.43

Interest Rates

Period	Bid	Offered
1 month	4	4-3/8
3 months	4-5/16	4-11/16
6 months	4-1/2	4-15/16
1 year	4-11/16	5-1/8

BOMBAY

PR.CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	65	63.50	64.50	NICO	510	515	507.50
ACC 140	147	144	GRASIM	32	32.25	31	MUKAND	79.50	78.50	78
ASIA PAINT 147.50	143.75	146.25	GSFC	96.50	95	95	NOCL	440	430	440
BAJAJ AUTO 395	397.50	395	HIND LEVER	67	66	67	ORKAY	22.50	22	22.50
BAR.RAYON 162.50	165	157.50	HINDALCO	122	122.50	121	PFIZER	28.50	27	27.50
BOM.DYING 127.50	128.50	130.50	HINDCOCA	77.50	75	75	75	75	75	75
BR. BOND 80.50	79	80	HINDMOTOR	18	17.50	18	RAYMOND	49	47	46.50
BSE INDEX 411.22	406.03	IND.ORG	19.50	18	18.75	18.75	RELIANCE	88	86	85
CENTURYSPIG 685	695	695	INDRAYON	51	50.50	49	SIEMENS	67	66	66
COLGATE 182.50	193.75	190	INDRAYON	172.50	168.75	170	SPIC	30.50	31	28.50
OEPAKFERT 30	29.50	28.50	ITC	32	31	32	STOMILLS	235	230	230
EI.HOTEL 39	38	40	JKSYNTH	55.50	56	54.50	TATA PUR	185	185	185
ESKAYEF 202.50	207.50	201.25	L AND T	79	80	78	TATACHEM	63.50	62.50	63.50
ESSAR 18	18	17	MAHINDRA	55	53.50	54	TELECO	347.50	355	350
GAR. POLY 80	79	78.50	MASTERSHR	9.25	9	9.19	TISCO	585	590	588.75
GE.SHIP 23.50	23.25	23	MATHER PL	99	98	97.50	VOLTAS	255	252.50	255

FRANKFURT

STOCK	LAST	PR.CLSE	TOKYO
AEG 227.2	229.0	440	AIJINOMOTO 3400
ALLIANZ VR 1370.0	1373.0	144	AKAI ELEC 535
BAUDERWKR 184.5	183.0	144	AOKI 1020
BAASF 244.6	246.5	144	ASAHI GAS 1970
BAUER HYP 264.5	267.0	144	ASAHI OPT 585
BAUER VER 340.0	348.5	144	BANK TOKYO 1550
BBC 309.5	308.0	144	BRIDGESTON 1430
BHF 327.0	329.0	144	CAJON 1180
BMW 527.5	532.0	144	CASIO COMP. 1270
CHEMIE-VER 0	120.0	144	CHUGAI MNG 0
COMMERZBK 231.0	233.5	144	CITIZEN W 640
CONTI.GUMM 232.9	234.0	144	C-ICHI KAN 3200
DAIMLER BEN 695.5	690.0	144	OAI NIP IK 815
DEUTSC.BNK 435.0	435.0	144	OAI NIP PT 2600
DLW 317.5	316.0	144	OAI NIP SC 980
DRESDNER 248.0	248.0	144	DAI NIP TO 484
DTI.GARBCO 155.0	151.0	144	DAICEL 1500
FAZ INDEX 456.83	458.95	144	DAIWA H 1520
GOLDSCHMID 257.0	256.0	144	DAIWA H 1520
GUTEHNER 0	0	144	DAIWA SEC 2760
HARPENER 390.0	395.0	144	EBRA MFG 865
HOECHST AG 254.2	257.0	144	EISAI 2490
HOESCH 109.5	112.5	144	FUJITSU 1540
HORTEN 175.0	175.0	144	FUJI BANK 3470
HUSSEL HLD 434.0	434.0	144	FUJI PHOTO 4140
KALT SAL2 143.0	144.1	144	FUJISAWA 2030
KARSTADT 420.5	421.5	144	FUJITRA 755
KAUFHOF 372.5	377.0	144	FUJITRA 1380
KLOCK H 94.0	95.0	144	FUJITRA 1400
KLOCK W 0	67.5	144	FUJITRA 1420
LINDE 565.0	570.0	144	FUJITRA 1440
LUFTHANSA 142.0	143.0	144	FUJITRA 1460
MAN 157.5	158.8	144	FUJITRA 1480
MANNESM 119.8	121.8	144	FUJITRA 1500
MERCEDES 549.0	548.0	144	FUJITRA 1520
METALLGES 221.0	219.5	144	FUJITRA 1540
NIXDORF PF 551.5	550.0	144	FUJITRA 1560
NORKS HYD 46.60	46.50	144	FUJITRA 1580
PHILIP KOM 646.0	644.0	144	FUJITRA 1600
POSCHE 466.0	465.5	144	FUJITRA 1620
PREUSSAG 128.0	127.0	144	FUJITRA 1640
PWA 196.0	198.0	144	FUJITRA 1660
RHEIN 204.5	206.0	144	FUJITRA 1680
RHEIN P 198.7	201.0	144	FUJITRA 1700
RHEINMETAL 255.0	263.0	144	FUJITRA 1720
SAALAMANDER 262.5	263.0	144	FUJITRA 1740
SCHERKING 437.5	442.0	144	FUJITRA 1760
SEL 313.5	320.0	144	FUJITRA 1780
STEMENS 383.5	387.5	144	FUJITRA 1800
THYSSEN 123.5	124.7	144	FUJITRA 1820
VARTA 254.5	256.0	144	FUJITRA 1840
VEBA 259.5	261.2	144	FUJITRA 1860
VEH 163.5	163.1	144	FUJITRA 1880
VOVSKAGEN 249.5	250.8	144	FUJITRA 1900

HONG KONG

STOCK	LAST	PR.CLSE	HONG KONG
C H TUNNEL	13.90	14.00	14.00
CHEUNG K	7.25	7.20	7.20
CHINA GAS	16.10	16.20	16.20
CRINA L-P	18.30	18.40	18.40
CHINA MOTR	17.60	17.60	17.60
COSMO PROP	4.30	4.30	4.30
EVERGO IND	.32	.32	.32
FAR EAST C	.72	.72	.72
GEN. ORIENT	0	44.00	44.00
H C ODELP	8.60	8.70	8.70
H S INDEX	462.13	454.71	454.71
HANG LUNG	4.62	4.62	4.62
HANG SENG	30.25	29.80	29.80
HAN PAR BR	0	21.00	21.00
HK ELEC CO	7.80	7.75	7.75
HK K			

Comprehensive solution needed for Kuwait Stock Market

No steady upward movement in share prices: Saadoun

By M C Bose

THE chairman of the Al Shall Economic Consultants Jassem Al Saadoun has announced that there had been no increase in the prices of shares at the Kuwait Stock Market during the first two months of this year. In fact, Al Saadoun added, the index of Kuwaiti shares dropped by 10 per cent while that of Gulf shares dropped by four per cent during the months of January and February.

Drop

Saadoun said that the quantity and value of shares traded during these two months at the Stock Market was less than half the value of those traded the first two months of last year. He added that the same is true even if the quantities are compared with shares traded in November and December of last year.

Saadoun attributed this drop

to several factors, including the offering of government treasury bills and bonds, the government's inability to repeat last year's effort of splitting the value of Kuwaiti shares and the low profits distributed on shares for 1987 when compared to the value of the shares.

On the average, he said, the yield of Kuwaiti shares for last year was only 2.1 per cent, while in February it was 3.7 per cent for US shares and 4.3 per cent for British shares.

He added that the government's financial weakness because of the drop in oil prices and large sums already spent on the Stock Market was another factor contributing to the low trading and profits.

Al Saadoun said the government's attempts to push up the prices of Kuwaiti and Gulf shares had not stopped since 1982, beginning even before the Manakh crisis. He said that among these attempts was the issuing of

several laws, offering a subsidised rate for purchasing shares, splitting Kuwaiti shares and allowing Kuwaiti companies to buy 10 per cent of their own shares.

Prices

With each attempt, he said, the share prices would move up further but would soon come down again to an even lower level than had been previously. He added that what is important here is that the government learns from its previous experiences and realises that the problem is not temporary or urgent, but rather an organisational and structural one.

Al Saadoun said that the yield of Kuwaiti shares was 1.9 per cent; the lowest returns of any other investment. He added that not less than 50 per cent of the companies in the market had not announced profits thus far.

He added that the Stock Market requires a comprehensive solution and studies must be

carried out on the financial companies in the market in order to replace firms that are not performing well, regardless of political or social considerations. By this he stressed, the Stock Market could become a good investment means, adding that the general trend at present is a drop in the prices of shares of the majority of the companies, coupled with low trading on the shares.

Al Saadoun denied that any upturn in share prices could reflect the true performance or growth in the national economy. He said that the government based its assumptions on this idea, which was not accurate. He expressed belief that the government would be able to convince dealers of this theory.

Study

When asked about the validity of a study that showed that the market value of Kuwaiti and Gulf shares lost K.D7.2 billion during the last two years, with

the government holding almost half of the shares, Al Saadoun said that irrespective of any figures, it is well known that the government owns over half of the shares in the Stock Market and consequently will have to bear half of the losses.

He added that since the performance of the shares of the government is as high as the shares owned by individuals and companies, its losses are expected to be more than others.

Growth

Al Saadoun said that the possibility of an oil price war is not ruled out and since Kuwait's income depends mainly on oil revenues, it will be affected by any price war or a further drop in the rate of exchange of the US dollar. He added that he expected some instability in the value of the US dollar.

Saadoun compared what had happened in the world stock markets during December '86 to

October '87 with the Kuwaiti Manakh crash. He said that the US Dow Jones Index gained 1,000 points during this period without a true economic growth backing such a huge gain.

He added that this was one of the factors of the October '87 world stock market crash. The crash adversely affected the Kuwaiti investments, he said, which lost about \$5 billion while the whole world lost about \$20 billion.

Al Saadoun said that when public expenditures increase, despite the increase in the budget deficit, it means that the government is no longer capable of reducing expenditures. This means more borrowing, or more withdrawals from reserves if the oil revenues do not increase, he said.

He added that although financial data has not been published on the 1987 state revenues, the losses are expected to be around 10 per cent.

Leading brokerage sees gold stabilising

LONDON, March 2, (UPI): The price of gold will trade around \$420 an ounce for most of 1988, but should rally in the final quarter, brokers Shearson Lehman Brothers said today in an annual review of the gold industry.

Shearson forecast the London gold fix will range from \$420 to \$505 an ounce and projected an average official fixing price for the year of \$450 an ounce, little changed from last year's average of \$446.55.

"There is the possibility of a short-lived downward spike to \$380 an ounce but this, if it came about, will be fleeting," the review said.

Forecasts

The main forecasts for gold by Shearson were based on a slowdown in the rate of economic growth and no immediate rise in inflation.

Sustained growth in rising inflation could see gold soar to a peak of \$525 an ounce and average \$465 an ounce. A

deflationary recession would, however, decrease the average to around \$420 an ounce, with a low of \$380 an ounce, the review said.

The stock market also remained a key influence through portfolio holdings and the attractiveness of gold loans to mining companies, the review said.

The review said the gold market was increasingly aware of the surplus of supply over physical fabrication demand which had to be absorbed just to maintain prices.

Purpose

Good Japanese investor demand, partly due to a change in the tax laws from April 1988, should erode the surplus, the review said.

At least 150 metric tons of gold was expected to flow into Japan for investment purposes.

Jewellery demand in the West was forecast to rise slightly to 815 metric tons from 800 in 1987, aided by increased demand from the Far East.

Rapid growth will offset deflationary effects of US slowdown

(Continued from Page 9)

In spite of the strength of the economy, the appropriate strategy with regard to the Japanese equity market is quite difficult to call. Over the long-term, domestic cyclical stocks are clearly the best bet. Their earnings will benefit most from the rapid expansion of the economy.

Moreover, these stocks will provide better protection than (say) the financials in the event that the economy grows so rapidly that monetary policy has to be tightened.

However, this seems most unlikely in the short term. The Bank of Japan has recently eased interest rates. If the US economy turns out to have slackened significantly in the first quarter of 1988, its present tolerant attitude to access monetary growth might continue for a while. The recent rally in financials may have further to run over the next month or so.

The smaller Asian markets have been among the best performers in recent weeks. Taking January and December combined, Hong Kong rose 12.7 per cent and Singapore rose 13.6 per cent. In the first month of 1988 alone, the stockmarkets of Taiwan and Korea rose around 20 per cent. In contrast the Australian market fell back chiefly as a result of sharp falls in gold mining shares and weakness in the resources sector generally. The All Ordinary Index fell 4.8 per cent in January though gold stocks fell around 20 per cent during the month.

Demand

Conventionally, markets such as Hong Kong and Singapore are seen as a play on US consumer demand. This is evident from the negative reaction of the Hong Kong market to the release of the fourth quarter US GNP figures (which suggested a rapidly weakening US economy).

However, this view may be inappropriate. The importance of the US export market to Asian countries on the Pacific Basin Rim is diminishing. Conversely, trade links with Japan are now expanding very rapidly.

It is possible that the impact of rapid growth in the Japanese economy (say 5 per cent compared with 2-1/2 per cent last year) will go a good way towards offsetting the deflationary effects of the slowdown in the US. This is particularly true of Thailand, Korea and Taiwan.

Although more dependent on the US market, we believe that growth estimates for Hong Kong and Singapore have been marked down excessively since the stock market crash.

Hong Kong should manage 7-8 per cent growth this year and Singapore perhaps 5 per cent.

The implication is that the smaller Asian markets now offer very good value in relation to their growth prospects. To the Pacific Basin Fund — which is presently about 60 per cent invested in Japan — we would be looking to increase exposure to Hong Kong and Singapore. More than 20 per cent of the Asian Smaller Markets Fund is now committed to Thailand and Korea. This is already a large commitment in view of the liquidity of these markets.

Steeply

The gold price — which breached the \$500 barrier on December 14 — fell sharply in January. At the month end, it was trading around \$455 per ounce. Gold shares have fallen more steeply. In the last fortnight of January, Australian golds fell more than 25 per cent while North American golds were down more than 15 per cent.

Provided by Scimitar Monthly Market Review.

Dollar mixed

UK stocks surge in buoyant mood

LONDON, March 2. (Reuter): British stocks broke through the psychologically important 1,300-point mark on the blue-chip FTSE Index this morning after another strong rise in Tokyo.

But other European bourses were mixed with players apparently awaiting clearer signs of market directions.

Biggest

The dollar marked time and dealers expected little real movement one way or the other until the next set of US monthly trade figures due on March 17.

The Tokyo market, the world's biggest, rose today for the 14th out of the last 15 trading days. The Nikkei index was up 246.92 points or 0.97 per cent at 25,682.82 and that was just 3.6 per cent off its all-time high of 26,646.43 set last October 14 — five days before Black Monday on Wall Street.

"A month ago people were terrified of the year-end and now they are terrified of missing the race," said Gerhard Hinterhauser, assistant vice-president at DB Capital Markets (Asia) in Tokyo.

"Investors on the sidelines are now less nervous about another big decline and more nervous they will miss an advance," said Michael Metz, a market strateg-

ist with Oppenheimer and Co in New York.

British shares powered ahead and by mid-morning Lodoon's FTSE index of 100 key shares had broken through the 1,300 points level after closing at 1,781.9 on Tuesday. By midday, it was hovering within a point or two either way of the 1,800 mark.

After a hesitant start to the day's trading, a combination of pre-budget optimism and positive company results led to a steady rise during the morning session with improved volume, dealers said.

Hopes

The FTSE index last rose above 1,800 — an important resistance level — during trading on February 1 but the market's hopes of any continuing rally were dashed by a half-point rise in British base rates to nine percent.

West German and French

shares opened slightly easier today. "There is no selling pressure but everyone is cautious," said one dealer in Frankfurt.

In Paris, dealers also said the underlying feeling was optimistic. "We're still on the right track," said one French dealer.

"This market is cash-rich with all these takeover bids and stock buybacks," he said.

Spanish and Italian shares continued to move upwards while Stockholm opened lower. Dutch and Swiss shares were mixed.

In other Asian markets, Sydney closed higher because of growing optimism that the fortunes of its heavyweight mining industry may be looking up, dealers said. The All Ordinaries index gained 12.2 points to 1,285.5.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng index edged up 7.42 points to close at around 2,462.13 points.

Hong Kong is world's busiest container port

HONG KONG, March 2. (UPI): China's modernisation programme and its increasing overseas trade through the port of Hong Kong has helped the British colony's container terminals become the busiest to the world.

Hong Kong's container port at Kwai Chung, on the mainland shore of the Victoria Harbour, has boomed with the increase of China's posture as a major production centre for the colony's factories.

The government's marine department said Hong Kong in January surpassed Rotterdam as the world's top container port, increasing its traffic 24.63 per cent last year from the 2.7 million units it handled in 1986.

Officials said Rotterdam would need a 17.5 per cent growth increase to maintain its No. 1 position. Dutch officials indicated their port figures, due out later this year, were expected to show zero growth for 1987.

Confident

"We are quite confident that we are the No. 1 container port in the world," a marine department spokesman said.

Local manufacturers have found it is cheaper to produce goods on the low-cost Chinese mainland and bring them back to Hong Kong for dispatch overseas.

"Before the open door policy we used to get containers coming out of China," he said. "Now we are getting large volumes going in."

Meredith said China trade has

grown as more factories come into operation. Exports increase as manufacturers begin to produce and there is a need to import equipment and unfinished products from Hong Kong.

Container operators have invested billions of dollars in the world's largest cranes, trucks and other equipment to improve Kwai Chung's handling capability. The only Asian container port open 24 hours daily seven days a week, Kwai Chung is in endless activity.

Towering four-legged cranes straddle stacks of containers and constantly load them onto tractor-trailers which lumber from one staging area to another.

Activity picks up when ship docks alongside a berth, dwarfing the 10-storey, \$20 million cranes which reach across the port.

Like a well-oiled machine, a steady stream of trucks race from stacks of containers waiting to be moved to the large cranes loading the ships.

Before the age of container shipping nearly 20 years ago, it would take an hour to load 10 tons of cargo onto a ship. Now it takes just over a minute to load 30 tons.

Facilities

In contrast with Kwai Chung's high-tech, computer-controlled facilities is the large amount of container handling in the harbour by large junks equipped

with cranes. Most of the junks house the crew and their families.

About 52 per cent of containers going through Hong Kong in 1987 were handled in the harbour amid the ferries and wood-bulled sampans busying the waterway.

Many smaller inter-Asia ships are offloaded in the harbour, mainly because it is less expensive than Kwai Chung, although officials said this takes 5 days as opposed to 12 hours.

Even though the British colony will be returned to Chinese sovereignty in 1997, officials at Kwai Chung are looking to the future and are working to keep pace with Hong Kong's overall trade growth.

Growth

By the end of 1990 Kwai Chung hopes to double its annual throughput to four million containers as it increases the size of the terminal. Officials see a growth by the end of the century of up to 10 million containers per year.

But with 45 per cent of the colony's exports going to the United States, Hong Kong's economy hinges on America's economic climate and authorities fear a possible US recession could mean a decrease in Kwai Chung's throughput.

Hong Kong already is predicting its exports will grow only about 6 per cent this year, compared with 20 per cent in 1987.

Kuwait National Petroleum Company

Bidding No. 457 R/9 supply of carbon sheets.

The KNPC — Mina Abdulla Refinery Department, invites the above bidding in conformity with the general and special conditions stated in the bidding documents which can be obtained from the Higher Committee for Purchases & Projects at the Company Headquarters during office hours against a non-refundable fee of KD2/-.

The closing date for submitting offers shall be 12.00 noon, Monday, 13.4.88. Offers shall be addressed to the Chairman & Managing Director, KNPC, PO Box: 70, 13001 Kuwait and deposited in the Company Tender Box at the Headquarters before the closing date.

Offers shall be valid for 90 days as of the date of opening envelopes. Initial guarantee shall be 2-1/2% of the offer value to be valid throughout the offer's validity period.

General Administration of Civil Aviation

Bidding No. 4-87/88 — Construction & completion of air navigation room on the 5th Ring Road.

The General Administration for Civil Aviation hereby announces the above bidding for construction & completion of Air Navigation Room at the 5th Ring Road in conformity with the conditions and specifications obtainable from the Tenders Division General Admin.

(To be continued)

Provided by M.A. Mursi Umm Al Maradim International Est. P.O. Box 3654, Satat, Tel. 5337547/5337610.

COMPILED by Alghanim Barber Shipping Co. WLL, PO Box 21703, Safat, Alghanim Industries Bldg, Airport Road, Kuwait. Phone 4842998/4843998, ext. 3628/3614.

Fed chief urges further cuts in US budget deficit

Dear Junior Readers,

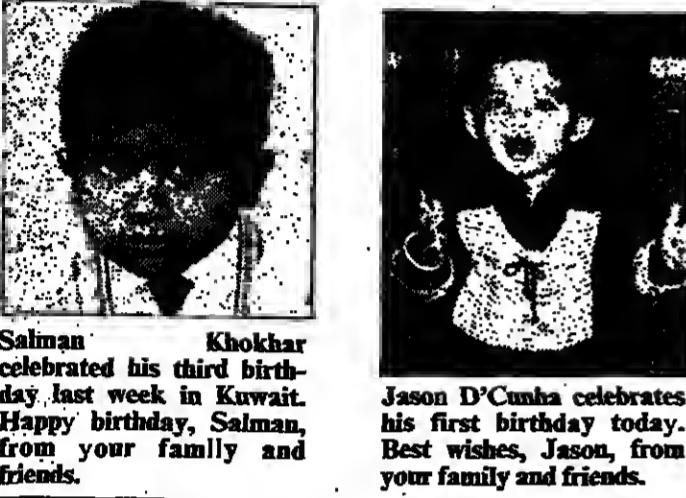
One of the very special things about living in Kuwait is that you can meet people from many different countries. Although we may have read about the customs of people from other countries it is always exciting when we can experience these customs for ourselves by travelling to a foreign country or through discussions with friends.

When you meet someone from another country it is important to remember that this is an individual you are meeting. Try not to form opinions about that person based on generalisations you have heard about the country he or she is from. You will miss out on learning so much about others if you make judgements about others' countries rather than trying to understand people as individuals.

Really learn about other people before you from your own opinions, and then remember that everyone you meet from any country will not be the same as the few you have already met.

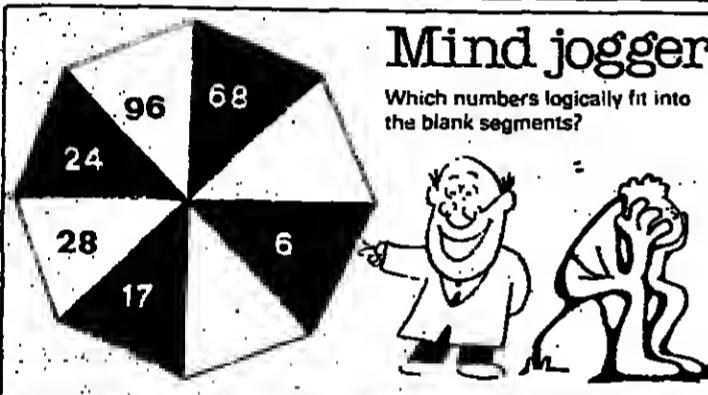
Aunt Barbara

Happy birthday



Salman Khokhar
celebrated his third birthday last week in Kuwait. Happy birthday, Salman, from your family and friends.

Jason D'Cunha celebrates his first birthday today. Best wishes, Jason, from your family and friends.



Mind jogger

Which numbers logically fit into the blank segments?

ROBBY wanted a guinea pig more than anything else in the world.

He had once owned two pet rats, but his mother was the one who looked after them because Robby forgot to feed them.

He once had two angel-fish and six guppies, but the water got so dirty no one could see them. His mother had to clean the fish tank.

His mother often said, "The problem with having pets is that mothers always end up taking care of them."

Robby promised that if he could have a guinea pig he really would look after it.

One day his mother found a guinea pig on sale at the pet store. She bought him and took him home in a small white box for Robby's ninth birthday.

When Robby opened the box, he found a ball of fur with two black eyes. It was Gynn.

Baby Gynn was soft and fuzzy. He was white and grey with black hairs sticking up all around. He could look straight ahead and to both sides without moving his head. But his eyes were hard to find because they were under all that hair.

For some time Gynn lived quite happily in a large cage in Robby's bedroom.

Robby gave him pellets and fresh water every day and cleaned the cage every four days, just as he had promised. And he gave him so many green celery tops for snacks that whenever the refrigerator door opened Gynn would cry, "Squeee, squeee, squeee."

Sometimes Robby gave Gynn freshly cut dandelion-leaves too, for a special treat. Soon he looked like a fat, round, furry football.

Gynn, the guinea pig

But Gynn had nothing to do when Robby wasn't around, and he spent hours staring through the window at the green grass outside.

Gradually, Robby became more interested in computer games than in his pet.

As soon as he got home from school he sat down in front of the computer screen. He played game after game, and when he was bored with games, he

wrote programmes until bedtime. Early every morning he was back pecking at the keys.

One day Robby's mother checked Gynn's cage and found it a sorry, smelly mess. Gynn looked sad. His fur was dull and he was terribly hungry. Robby had not been looking after him at all.

One day she was talking to a friend about the problem. Her friend looked sad when she saw

Gynn. "Oh dear," she said. "And my children would so love to have a guinea pig."

Suddenly Robby's mother knew what to do. She spoke to Robby and they agreed on an adoption.

On Christmas Eve Robby gave Gynn a last snack of celery tops, said "goodbye" and wrapped the cage in an old green blanket.

On Christmas Day a



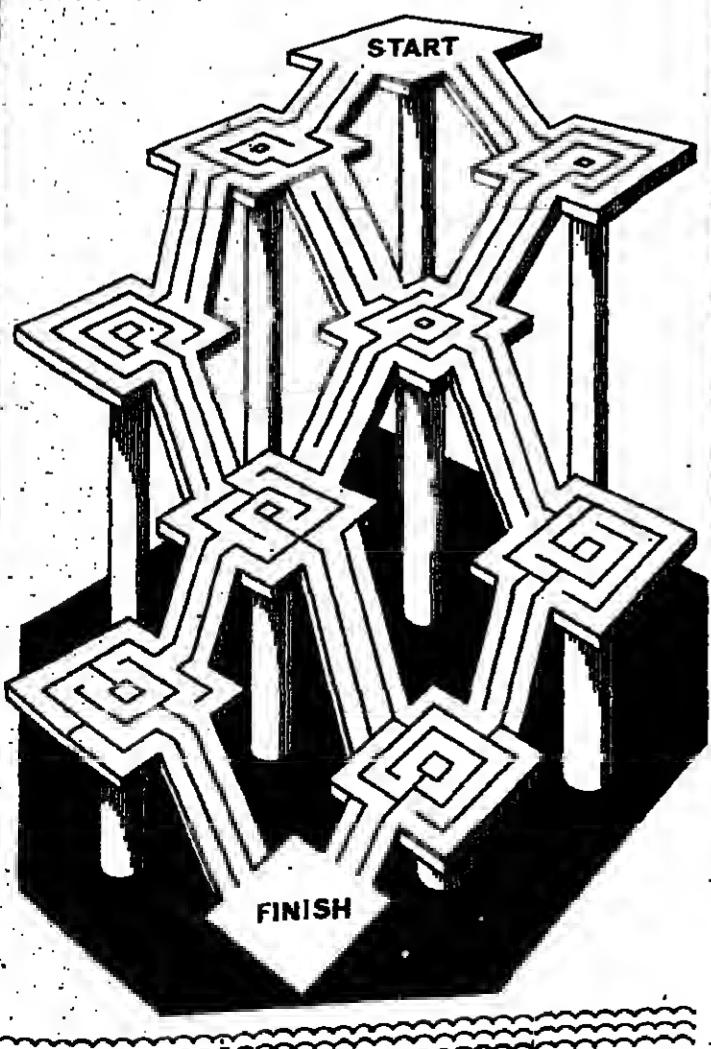
Gulf English students enjoy Sports Day



Over 200 Infant 3 students from Gulf English School participated in Sports Day at Yarmouk Stadium yesterday. The children, divided into different teams, competed in various sports events, coached by their teachers. A winning team is pictured above with their trophy.

Platform maze

A puzzle for level-headed people. Can you find your way through this maze?



Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



Cut and restored necktie

The illusion:

Someone wearing a necktie is brought forward to help you. Suddenly you accidentally cut off the end of his tie. He removes the tie and, since it's now worthless anyway, you cut it into several more pieces. The remains of the tie are placed in a paper bag, it's blown up, and then burst. You reach into the shreds of paper and remove the necktie completely restored.

The preparation:

You need one friend, two identical neckties, and two identical paper bags. Your friend is wearing one tie, and the other is secretly hidden in the prepared bag.

Cut one of the bags down each side, about 1" from the crease, and along the bottom (1). The smaller piece of the bag is now glued inside the second, whole bag by its three cut edges, leaving the top edge open (2). When the glue is dry, put the second necktie in the main compartment of the bag, fold it flat, and have it nearby for when

you do the trick. Your friend sits in the audience just as if he doesn't know what's going to happen.

The trick:

Mention that you need a helper for your next trick and ask your friend to come forward. Pick up a pair of scissors and tell everyone you're going to do a cut-and-restored string trick that is absolutely marvellous. Ask him if he happens to have a piece of string in his pocket. Naturally he doesn't. Then notice that he apparently has a spot on the end of his tie. Ask him if he knows how to remove the spot and when he says, "No," cut off the end of the tie. At this point he should act as though he can't believe what you've just done, but you tell him you can fix it. He removes his necktie and reluctantly gives it to you. You immediately cut it into five or six more pieces, open up the paper bag, and place the pieces inside. However, you don't place them in the main part of the bag. You have slid your finger in between the two false sides of the bag so the pieces can go into the secret compartment. Have your friend blow up the bag, then you reach over and burst it. Because the two sides of the secret compartment are glued together, they are strong enough to withstand the popping. Only the single side in the main part will break open. Reach inside the torn bag and remove the whole

large green parcel sat beneath the Kite family tree.

When Katie and Harry unwrapped the blanket, they were thrilled. They already owned five cats, but a guinea pig was special. Now they had Gynn.

They took turns picking him up, and he snuggled under their chins. His bristly hair tickled them and made them laugh.

They put Gynn on the sun porch, surrounded on three sides by windows. From there he could see more than grass. He could see mountains and ocean and sky as well.

Katie and Harry cleaned and fed Gynn most of the time, and Mrs Kite didn't mind helping now and then. She grew quite fond of him.

The curious cats liked him too. But when they tried to play with him he leapt into the air and squealed. So most of the time they left him alone.

In the spring Mrs Kite had an idea. She lifted Gynn out of his cage and set him down in the backyard. He took a quick look around, then scurried off into the raspberry bushes beside the fence.

From then on he lived outside in summer and inside in winter.

Mr Kite built a little house for Gynn beside the fence.

Every morning Katie put him outside. And every evening Harry brought him back in, so he could sleep in his cage filled with sweet-smelling grass.

Gynn grew fatter and happier than most guinea pigs. He gorged on crab grass, mint leaves and dandelions. He wore a path between the dandelion patch, the raspberry bushes and his little house.

For two years and eight months the Kite family loved and cared for him.

Then, one night while he was eating his dinner of grass, Gynn suddenly died. No one knew how or why it happened. It just did.

Everyone was very sad.

They put Gynn in a small white box. Mr Kite dug a grave for him in his favourite corner near the raspberry bushes, where he'd often sat munching mint leaves on a warm summer day.

Mrs Kite read a poem, while Katie and Harry placed a wooden marker on the mound of earth.

Mr Kite blew his nose. Mrs Kite cried softly into her handkerchief. Katie wiped and wiped her nose. Harry wept noisily into his fists.

For days the family thought and talked about their friend.

Mrs Kite recalled the day Katie and Harry had found Gynn under the kitchen bulletin board. He framed another one and placed it on the mantle among all the other family photos.

Katie remembered how she and Harry would take turns holding Gynn. She remembered how he would cuddle, and how his bristly hair would tickle their chins.

The next spring they planted chrysanthemum seeds in Gynn's corner. Each year the flowers remind them of their small friend and the happiness he brought them.

Zonzi-bar Pete and Zoom-along Dick

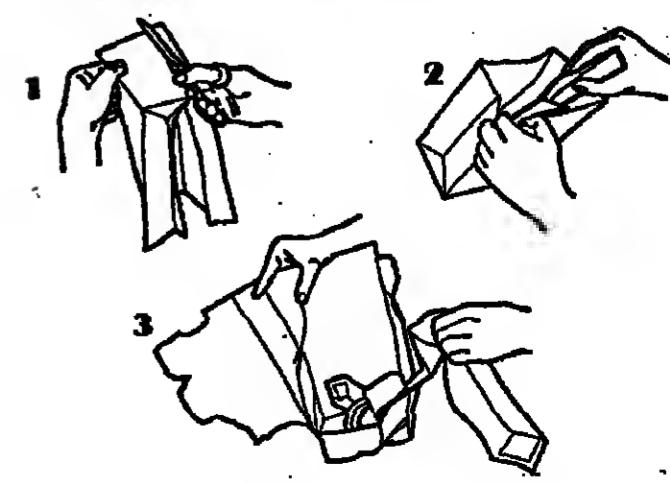
Zonzi-bar Pete and Zoom-along Dick took a picnic to eat in the park. They took so much food (without being rude) that they had to stay there until dark.

Zonzi-bar Pete and Zoom-along Dick picked up all of the litter they'd made. Then they felt so much thinner they went home to dinner. And the end more, I'm afraid.



necktie, letting the audience see the empty interior of the bag as you do so (3). As your helper knots the whole tie around his neck, casually wad up the bag and put it away.

The two of you must act as though the first cutting of the necktie is a bad joke on your part, and, of course, your friend must be loyal enough to never tell how you actually did the trick.



ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

For Rent

MISHRIFF, deluxe, CAC, carpeted single storey villa comprising 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, living and dining area, large fitted kitchen outside building, beautiful garden, covered car park and telephone. Rent KD650. Tel. 5391720/5382783, 1-8 pm. (AT5-41169-6)

JABRIYA, Area 11, Building No 234. Executive style flat, 3 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, parking, garden and extras, a 24-hour security with electricity, water and maintenance. Tel. 5315333 all day, 5743299 after 5 pm. (AT5-41222-3)

DARWAZA Abdul Razzak (opposite Joint Banking Centre). Flat, two bedrooms / sitting room + kitchen, bath room and with telephone. Tel. Jamil M. Choudhry 2462238, 7.30 am - 1.30 pm, 2430810 after 1.30 pm. (AT5-41202-3)

WANTED

KATO Cranes

All sizes, 1981 or later models in good all-round condition. Tel: 4741822/4713127

KUWAIT City, Hamed Al Saqr St. near the church, a flat consisting of 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, a big kitchen & a saloon. Rent KD200. Contact: Abdul Mohsin, tele. 2448368 or 5656744, weekdays from 8:30am—3pm, all day on weekends. (AT5-41220-3)

SALMIYA, overlooking the sea. One-bedroom flat with central A/C. Rent KD160. Tel. 5759148, 2-8pm. (AT5-41223-3)

Available

BENEID AL QAR, near Hilton Hotel, one furnished room for a single Pakistani bachelor, Muslim, non-smoker. Rent KD30, with water. Tel. 2518373, 8 am - 12.30 pm only. (AT5-41206-3)

SHARQ, behind Sharq towers. One room to share with a bachelor, has built-in wardrobe and separate toilet facilities in a CAC apartment. Tel. Stanley, 2445789, 5.30 - 9 pm. (AT5-41202-3)

Video Film International
40 films KD7
55 films KD10
80 films KD20
Prices include all movies except Arabic movies.
Tel. 4344290
Juleeb Al Shiyukh

SALMIYA Baghdad St. One room for an Indian couple or family to share with family. Tel. Godinno 5723020, 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 4 - 8.30 pm. (AT5-41218-2)

AL SHAAB area, for ladies, fully furnished sharing accommodation. Contact: tel. Nos. 4712083, 4716477 ext 168. (AT5-41223-3)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

ONE bedroom/big saloon, furnished flat with telephone, on main street Farwaniya (near Al Rasheed Pakistan School). Rent KD100/- monthly. Tel. Mohamad Hanif 2413467/2413461, 9 am-12.30 pm, 5-8 pm. (AT5-41212-2)

BABY cot sofa-cum-bed, sofa set, diningtable, with 4 chairs at throwaway prices. Tel. Sunil, 5658769. (AT5-41236-2)

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Cars

ISUZU Asca, 1986, fully automatic, silver colour, 24000 kms. In excellent condition. Best offer over KD1600. Tel. 4837623, 8 am-1 pm; 4-7 pm. (AT5-41233-3)

CHEVROLET Caprice, 1977 model, AC, automatic, 2 doors, low mileage, in excellent condition, KD325, ono. Tel. 3946049. (AT5-41235-2)

GALANT GLS '87 model, 25000 km. No down payment. Fully maintained by Al Mulla garage, 40 instalments of KD90,000. Tel. Edward, 4712572. (AT5-41219-3)

DODGE Atrisk 1981 model, low mileage, V-4, 2 door, automatic, AC, in good condition. KD500 cash. Tel. Mr Ayman, 4736516, 4747548, 8 am-4 pm. 2444833, 5-9 pm. (AT4-41194-3)

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MITSUBISHI Galant GLX model 1985, AC, stereo, manual, blue. Very good condition. KD850 cash. Tel. 4749794 afternoon.

(AT5-41213-3)

HYUNDAI Stellar, 1986 model, AC, automatic, 62000 kms, blue, powerful stereo in very good condition. Best offer over KD1150. Tel. 4837623, 8 am-1 pm; 4-7 pm. (AT5-41233-3)

MITSUBISHI Galant, automatic. Purchased December 87, registered until December 1990. Tel. Joe 2403600, 8.30 am - 12.30 pm, 4 - 7 pm. (AT5-41209-3)

PETS

PERSIAN kitten, one black male pedigree, registration papers available. KD80. Tel. 5314119. (AT4-41195-3)

GERMAN Shnauzer puppies, male and female, 8 weeks old. KD75 each. Tel. 3983026. (AT4-41196-3)

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SPORTS

Botham in hot water as Queenslanders toil

SYDNEY, March 2. (Reuters): England all-rounder Ian Botham landed in hot water as Victoria frustrated Queensland's hopes of a decisive breakthrough in their Sheffield Shield match today.

Botham was reported for swearing by umpires Robin Baulch and Darrell Holt as Victoria reached 243 for seven by the close of the first day.

Breaching

An official statement later said Botham had been charged with breaching sections of the Australian Cricket Board's code of behaviour.

Victorian Cricket Association executive director Ken Jacobs said the sections pertained to "conduct detrimental to the game and crude and/or abusive language."

Botham toiled hard under a blazing sun, sending down 17 overs and taking one wicket for 53 runs as Queensland, joint shield leaders, desperately sought outright points that would ensure the final is held in Brisbane.

In Perth, joint leaders Western Australia routed South Australia for 138 but then lost quick wickets themselves to leave the match evenly poised at the end of the first day.

Fast medium left-hander

YMCA Winners

Bruce Reid destroyed the South Australian middle order and tail as he snapped up five wickets for a mere nine runs in the space of 40 deliveries and ended with five for 34.

Newcomer

But then newcomer Chris Killen and South Australia's other new-ball bowlers, Andrew Zesers and Peter Gladigan, combined to have Western Australia in serious trouble at 37 for five in the 21st over.

However, captain Graeme Wood and Tim Zoehrer rescued the side with a fighting sixth-wicket partnership which produced 51 runs in 36 minutes.

At the close, Western Australia were 95 for six, with Wood 29 and Chris Matthews five.

Results

In Melbourne: Victoria 243 for seven (Dav Whatom 85, Warren Ayres 46, Dirk Tazelaar three for 50) v Queensland.

In Sydney: Tasmania 276 for six (David Booc 93, Mick Taylor 81, Brian Davison 47 not out, Steve Waugh four for 38) v New South Wales.

In Perth: South Australia 138 (Peter Sleep 34, Bruce Reid five for 34), Western Australia 95 for six (Andrew Zesers three for 48, Chris Killen two for 17).

Cup cricket

RESULTS of the cricket tournament matches played for the YMCA Winners Cup on Fridays and holidays at the Ahmadi Governorate Ground.

Kokan vs Gold Star

Kokan won the toss and put Gold Star to bat. Gold Star scored 135 runs for the loss of 6 wickets in the allotted 25 overs.

Top scorers for Gold Star were Amin 35, Khawer 34, Sajid 29 and Khalid 22. Wickets for Kokan were taken by Ibrar 2 for 28, Javed 2 for 24 and Iunayat 1 for 22 runs. Kokan in reply scored 138 in 22.2 overs and won the match by 6 wickets. Top scorers for Kokan were Zia 50 not out, Ibrahim 34, Majid 16, and Ibrar 19 not out. Wicket takers for Gold Star were Khawer 2 for 29 and Amin 2 for 24 runs.

YMCA vs Young Masters

Young Masters, a team with young boys of the Indian School, played with YMCA, who won the toss and elected to bat first, and scored 116 for 9 wickets in 29 overs.

Young Masters in reply scored 114 for 9 wickets in 29 overs. Main scorers were skipper

WRIGHT AND GATTING LEAD THEIR TEAMS FOR THIRD TEST

Spinners could hold the key

WELLINGTON, March 2. (Reuters): England will include two spinners and New Zealand is likely to do the same as both sides search for new weapons to break the deadlock for the third and deciding Test starting in Wellington on tomorrow.

With the absence of Richard Hadlee from the New Zealand side, the seam attack of both teams have looked decidedly ordinary despite being up against mostly inexperienced and classless batsmen.

The basin reserve pitch is brown and likely to take slow spin from the start.

Absent

The crowds were markedly absent in the first two drawn and draw-out Tests. While the unseasonably cool weather and the slow pitches have contributed, the main factor has been the lack of attacking cricket.

Both captains will have to play a more attacking approach

than they have so far in the series if they are to attract spectators. There has not been one attacking batting innings of note so far and neither bowling attack appears to have the thrust to knock the other side over.

New Zealand will have a new captain in John Wright but it is hard to see him taking risks in his first Test. England's Mike Gatting, who has the dismal record of two wins and four losses from 21 Tests as captain, seems more intent on avoiding defeat than winning.

Recalled

New Zealand has recalled Stephen Boock from retirement and the left-arm off-spinner has let it be known he was not prepared to go to Wellington just to carry the drinks tray.

Off-spinner John Bracewell bowled well in his only innings in the second Test in Auckland and he is a certainty to play.

England undoubtedly made a

mistake in not including off-spinner Eddie Hemmings in its eleven in Auckland and the selectors have ensured that cannot be repeated by naming only eleven players in its team for this Test.

Misread

Gatting, who is known to prefer faster bowlers over spinners, appeared to misread the Auckland pitch. Although green and well grassed, it never gave any great assistance to the pacemen and at the end of the match he criticised the fact that speedster Graham Dilley was unable to bounce the second ball above bail height.

The lack of variety in England's attack was revealed in New Zealand's second innings of 350 for seven.

England's other off-spinner, John Emburey, does not turn the ball as much as Hemmings and he seems to have lost the art of looping the ball to attack the batsman.

England's batting will be strengthened by the omission of former captain Jeff Crowe but team manager Gren Alabaster's announcement that Andrew Jones has not recovered from the wrist injury he sustained in the first Test is a serious blow.

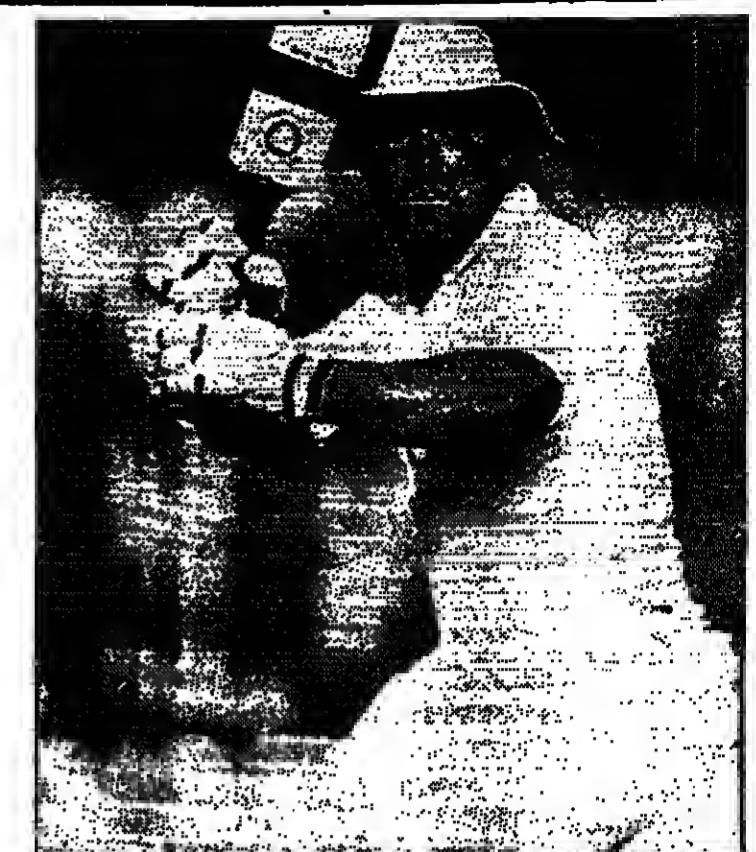
He has been holding his place through his eccentric but effective batting but there must be questions about a bowler who has recently averaged only about two wickets per Test.

Dropped

England dropped Neal Radford, who was largely ineffectual in Auckland, and Paul Jarvis, who has made way for the extra speed and firepower of Phillip DeFreitas.

David Capel was virtually a spare part both in England's bowling and its batting in Auckland and was lucky in Wellington to get in ahead of Jarvis but his superior batting talent decided the issue.

New Zealand's batting will be strengthened by the omission of former captain Jeff Crowe but team manager Gren Alabaster's announcement that Andrew Jones has not recovered from the wrist injury he sustained in the first Test is a serious blow.



Getting: two wins and four losses from 21 Tests

Sri Lanka give Australia a fright

SYDNEY, March 2. (Reuters): Sri Lanka gave Australia a fright before going down by 24 runs in the World Youth Cup cricket series at Merbein, near Victoria, today.

After being given a good start by opener Brett Williams, who made 75, Australia suffered a middle order slump, losing six wickets in the space of 60 runs and were dismissed for 249 in 49 overs.

Sri Lanka began brightly with a 101-run opening stand, including 85 from the first 20 overs, and were left needing 58 runs from the last nine overs with five wickets in hand. But the three runs outs ended their chances and they were all out for 225 off 46.4 overs.

Disastrous

At Renmark, in South Australia, disastrous batting by the West Indies gave England victory on a platter.

England were in deep trouble at 12 for three early on but Nasser Hussain and Mark Alleyne restored stability with a 77-run fourth wicket partnership.

Alleyne made 31 and Hussain top scored with 50 as England made 174 for seven off their 50 overs.

In reply, the West Indies also lost early wickets and were bunt-

ed out for a meagre 111. At Wentworth, in New South Wales, four Indian run-outs and a four-wicket-bail by Pakistan captain Zahoor Elahi helped keep Pakistan's unbeaten record intact.

After being restricted to 194 for seven off 50 overs, Pakistan bowled out India for 126 in only 39.3 overs.

At Loxton, in South Australia, New Zealand, heat the ICC Associates' team by four wickets.

Dismissed

ICC were dismissed for 131 with only captain Gile Bruck-Jackson, of Zimbabwe, who top scored with 40, providing any real resistance.

Best of the bowlers were Chris Cairns, who took four for 18 off 5.2 overs, and Simon Peterson with three for 18 off eight overs.

New Zealand had few problems reaching the modest target with 10 overs and four wickets to spare.

Next matches: March 3, Sri Lanka vs England (in Barmera), New Zealand vs India (in Loxton), Australia vs ICC (in Wentworth), Pakistan vs West Indies (in Mildura).

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Canara Exchange Co. W.L.L. wishes to inform their patrons and constituents, that their Murgab branch office will be shifted to alternative premises on the ground floor of the Sulaiman Abdullah Al Mansur Building, opp. Safat Post Office, between Oman Exchange Co. and Dollarco Exchange Co. as from 1.3.1988.

We solicit your continued patronage.



On Saturday the 27th of Feb. 88 the opening of Al-Muthanna Festival for perfumes, Gifts and Accessories took place in Al-Muthanna Complex one of the most leading Residential and Commercial Complexes in Kuwait. The selected Commercial outlets participating in this festival were: Prisunic, Elysee, Al Massel, Al Shayaa, Body Shop, My Fair Lady, Fanated, Konan House, and Abd Al Hameed Rassol. They presented the newest and most fashionable types of Perfumes, Gifts and Accessories. The Opening ceremony of the festival was attended by Mr. Jassim Al Dowi Al-Muthanna Complex Manager, a number of citizens and owners of the participating outlets. The Festival will go on till the 3rd of March 88.

Diamond beat Kerala

DIAMOND Cricket Club defeated Kerala Cricket Club in a friendly cricket match at Sharad on Feb 25.

After winning the toss, Diamond, elected to bat first, they opened the innings with Tariq and Ejaij and scored 24 runs in 4 overs, when the latter was bowled by Mzarhar for 13. Tariq joined Lancy and scored 45 runs for the second wicket. Lancy left at 69, after being bowled by Arvind.

Next batsman captain Liaqat Ali joined with Tariq and both of

them exhibited some good strokes, at the end Diamond scored 161 for the loss of 8 wickets in their allotted 25 overs. Tariq hammered 50, Liaqat hit 25, Ashgar 12, Mustafa and Mzarhar claimed two wickets each, Arvind and Feroz one wicket each.

In reply, Kerala could only manage 140 for the loss of 7 wickets in 25 overs. Arvind hit 34, Faisal 28, Fawaz 22, and Naser 20.

For Diamond, Liaqat, Tariq, Ejaij and Ashar took one wicket each.

For Kerala, Rafiq who was playing with the team, was the only batsman to cross double figures. Young Masters' Samir was the most successful bowler taking 5 wickets for 19 runs in 5 overs, Salim 2 for 38, Neil 1 for 50 and Ralph 1 for 24 runs.

Young Masters in reply scored 114 for 9 wickets in 29 overs. Main scorers were skipper

Steph and Baber stepped in and facing his first delivery greeted Maqbool, Starlite's best bowler with a straight six.

His dominance in a stand of 36 runs, when Lewis was caught and bowled by Ejaij for 13, Maqbool and Shabbir were out before Shabbir and Unity were once again struggling at 129 for 6. Baber in the meantime, had stroked his way to a powerful 63 when a dubious decision brought an end to his entertaining innings.

Six sizzling boundaries sounded the boards and 3 soaring sixes adorned his breezy knock that came of only 33 deliveries. After the fall of the 7th wicket, Rafiq was joined by Chris who was dismissed first ball for no score.

In reply Green Star got home in the 27th over with the loss of only three wickets. Apart from many drop catches Amjad played very well and scored (116 not out), with the help of 11 fours and 3 sixes.

After the match prizes were distributed by chief guest Hakan Granander, the managing director of International Shipping Agency and Abdulla from ISA, Toor, Kuwaiti social personality and Qamar, engineer of Salimiyah Co-op Society were among the other guests who distributed

Green Star captain with the Cantt Challenge Cup



Green Star captain with the Cantt Challenge Cup

Farooq, Iqbal and Amjad were awarded Best Batsmen.

Bowling: Daryl, Amjad and Saifuddin got prizes for their best performance in bowling.

For Green Star, Mujahid took 3 wickets while Khalid and Zahid shared two wickets each.

Catches

In reply Green Star got home in the 27th over with the loss of only three wickets. Amjad played very well and scored (116 not out), with the help of 11 fours and 3 sixes.

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Salmiya Cup soccer tourney

A ONE-DAY seven-a-side football tournament for the Salmiya Cup will be held on March 4 at the Salmiya Ground.

Teams can contact Tel: 5643558 or 5650466 or 5614506 after 6 pm for details.

Kifco trophy

STARLITE will meet Evergreen in final of Kifco trophy on Friday 4.3.88 at the NC ground. The match organised by KCL will commence at 9 am and will be a 45 over full day affair. Ashraf Khan, general manager of Kifco will be the chief guest and will give away the prizes.

AI Soor Street, Al Nasar Building, 3rd Floor. Phone 2427289.

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fluttering pennants and flags. Dial and band in a

SPORTS

King Fahd inaugurates Gulf Soccer Tournament

RIYADH, March 2, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia's newest and largest football stadium officially opened to a packed house today when King Fahd inaugurated the ninth annual Gulf Soccer Tournament.

The King Fahd International Stadium, which can seat up to 70,000 people, has a spectator canopy shaped like rows of Arabian tents and the world's largest free-span fibreglass structure.

It is one of 12 major sport complexes built in Saudi Arabia during the past 15 years for a total of more than \$12 billion.

Young men from the Kingdom's national guard and military formed intricate human mosaics with multi-coloured banners as King Fahd performed the opening ceremony.

Football is Saudi Arabia's most popular sport and seats in the stadium 20 km (12 miles) from Riyadh were sold out for the first match, between Saudi Arabia and Oman.

Teams from Bahrain, Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are also taking part in the tournament, which ends on March 18.

Two players sent off

SYDNEY, March 2, (Reuters): Two players were sent off and another taken to hospital in a fiery Olympic soccer qualifying tournament, Oceania Group clash between Taiwan and Western Samoa here today.

Fighting broke out in the second half after Western Samoa goalkeeper Tavita Samana had been heavily tackled. Two Taiwan players ended on the ground, and Samana and Western Samoa full-back Malo Vaga were ordered off.

A few minutes later Taiwan midfielder Hwang was carried from the field after a tackle and was taken to hospital for X-rays to his neck.

UK soccer results

LONDON, March 2, (Reuters): Results of British soccer matches played yesterday.

English Division One		
Southampton	1	Newcastle
Tottenham	0	Derby
Division Two		
Bradford	0	Huddersfield
English Division Three		
Blackpool	2	York
Brentford	2	Preston
Chesterfield	1	Bristol City
Doncaster	0	Mansfield
Grimbury v Rotherham postponed	2	
Sunderland	2	Fulham
Walsall	2	Bury
Wigan	4	Aldershot
Division Four		
Bolton	2	Tranmere
Crewe	0	Burnley
Halifax	0	Cardiff
Newport	0	Leyton Or.
Rochdale	0	Wolver.
Stockport	1	Scunthorpe
Swansea	1	Colchester
Wrexham	3	Cambridge

Tivim Centre Soccer tourney

TIVIM Centre, Kuwait will hold a seven-a-side football tournament on Thursday, March 25 at Sour Grounds in Kuwait City. Draw will be held at 6.30 am on the same day and tournament will commence at 7.00 am sharp. For more details please contact: D'Mello tel: 2434634/2420439 and Almeida 4813892.

Bridge

MESSILA ladies bridge game played on Saturday.

1st Sonia Basanyan & Elly Lammerts
2nd Nahil Akei & Lollo Murthwaite
3rd Lynn Edwards & Helen Hughes

HILTON bridge results played on Sunday.

N/S

1st Ali Boukhairi & Chiehli Jadas

2nd Lollo Murthwaite & Sandra Turvey

3rd Rina Al Faud & Farah.

E/W

1st E. El-Qattan & H. Al-Zaid

2nd Sudhir Dummer & Peter Fernandez

3rd Doma Materny & Hassan Mousad

SHERATON ladies bridge game played yesterday.

N/S

1st Sonia Basanyan & Ramda Fisan

2nd Jamila Al Jaid & Juliette Msaah

3rd Nahil Akei & Lollo Murthwaite

E/W

1st Rina Al Faud & Nicole Iskander

2nd Sandra Turvey & Suzanne Cartmell

3rd Dayane Falk & Mandy Clarke

RESULTS of Sheraton Bridge Club game held on Tuesday.

N/S

1st Adly Tibi & Magdi Mesdari

2nd Ignace Meouchi & Marcel Zanardi

3rd Saad El Saeid & Salah Galandar

E/W

1st Ahmed Heneidi & Stanislas Drexler

2nd Dr Shanka Reddy & Gregory Latala

3rd Dr Henryk Szul & Robert Stucker

GLASGOW RANGERS FACE A STERN TASK IN SECOND LEG

Steaua Bucharest win in European Cup quarterfinal

BUCHAREST, March 2, (Reuters): Romanian Army team Steaua Bucharest, spurred by a second minute goal from Victor Pitura, seized a 2-0 victory over Scotland's Glasgow Rangers in their European Cup quarterfinal first-leg clash today.

Steaua, who won the Champions' Cup in 1986, underlined their dominance with a second goal after 66 minutes by Stefan Iovan following a free kick.

The result left the Scottish champions, who are seeking their first European trophy since winning the Cup Winners' Cup in 1972, facing a stern task in the return leg in Glasgow on March 16.

Steaua, the Romanian first division leaders, might have built

an even greater advantage but for an impressive display by Rangers' goalkeeper, Chris Woods.

He made three superb saves during a sustained first-half assault by the army side.

The Romanians went ahead from their first serious attack which Rangers failed to clear, and Pitura pounced on a loose ball to score from close range.

Free kick

Steaua's second strike came from a short free kick 25 metres out of Ranger's goal. Gheorghe Hagi pushed the ball to right-back Iovan, who drove it home with the aid of a deflection off a Scottish defender.

Rangers had received a pre-match boost when top scorer Ally McCoist was declared fit to

play, only a week after a cartilage operation.

However, the Scots found attacking opportunities were rare as Steaua embarked on a relentless first-half onslaught.

In one five-minute burst, Woods turned a fiercely-driven free kick by Hagi over the bar and then touched over a well-struck shot from Nicolae Ungureanu. Soon afterwards he made another good save from Hagi.

Rangers midfielder Scott Nisbett and Ungureanu were booked after 38 minutes following an off-the-ball incident, while the Glasgow team's captain, Graham Roberts, was shown the yellow card for a foul on Hagi just before halftime.

Expected

Steaua coach Emmerich Jencsi said: "I think we shall be able to come away from Glasgow with a 3-1 aggregate win."

"We expected a powerful counter from Rangers after the

first goal, but it did not come.

"I am pleased with the win, but Steaua did not display the performance I expected. My team did not play full out and at times slowed down. We shall have to avoid this in Glasgow."

Marseille lead

Meanwhile, in Lecco, Italy, Jean-Pierre Papin gave Marseille a 1-0 lead over Rovaniemi Palloseura of Finland in their European Cup Winners' Cup quarterfinal first-leg match yesterday.

Expected

Steaua captain Tudorel Stoica was booked midway through the half for tripping forward Iain Durrant.

From AP

Steaua continued to play the ball around the composition in the second half, although Rangers seemed to be coping with the attacks more effectively than before the interval.

Roberts and fellow defender Richard Gough strove hard to limit the army side's chances, but McCoist found himself in a lone striking role for most of the time.

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